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East edition No 781

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Think before moaning about the weather today

IT has long been a conversational cornerstone in Kent to complain about the weather.

And it applies to all seasons and all conditions.

When it rains we droop about muttering about getting wet and how if it wasn't pouring down we'd be out doing something really exciting. When the sun shines we droop about muttering about the heat and how if it wasn't so warm we'd be able to have the energy to do something exciting.

Ditto wind, thunder and snow. We're never quite happy with a climate which is so predictable in its mundanity it's a wonder how we have made such a national sport out of discussing it.

But sometimes we ought to just step back and think what we could have to contend with. A few trains being cancelled when a light sleet shower falls, or the



Editor **Chris Britcher**

normal, ridiculous, panic buying of bread when two days of snow are forecast, is the sign of a nation spoilt by living in an environment where we are rarely (unless you live in Yalding of course) faced with a threat to our safety.

This weekend Hurricane Irma is due to bring its frankly frightening ferocity to the mainland USA after decimating thousands of homes across the Caribbean. Homes which will take years to rebuild in areas which are borderline third world in stature, albeit disguised by vibrant tourist industries and palm trees.

Florida will now experience what horrors it has in store. We should take the opportunity of following the events, donating to relief efforts and, most of all, taking a peak out of our windows and appreciating that while our weather may be more damb squib than sunny delight, it does at least leave us to get on with our lives.

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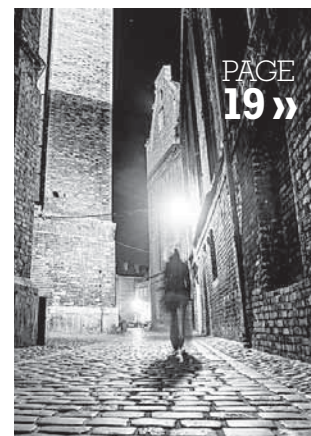
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Get back to the 'sewers', MP tells far-right group

By Chris Britcher

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MAIDSTONE MP Helen Grant has slammed Britain First protests against the redevelopment of Maidstone's mosque telling them "your stench is not welcome here".

The Conservative responded following a string of recent protests by the far-right group which claims it is standing up against "an avalanche of Islamisation".

Now Mrs Grant has hit back calling them "cowards".

She said: "The limp appearance of a small bunch of thugs in Maidstone last week is ironically helping to promote an important development for us here in the county town; the rebuilding of a seriously dilapidated mosque in Mote Road.

"The site has been granted permission for full redevelopment to create a really great community centre and place of worship for our Muslim community, where others are welcome, from all faiths.

"Our borough council passed the application by 11 votes to one. There were a reported 150 supportive public comments and just 20 indicating concerns about the



ANGRY: Maidstone MP Helen Grant issued a stinging rebuke to the far-right group.

Pic: ADY KERRY

effect on parking and other logistical issues.

"So how dare these individuals come to our town under the Britain First banner and say this development is not wanted. And how dare they insult our intelligence by trying to pretend they are not racist.

"They are cowards hiding behind a rebranding of their true colours, launders xenophobia and racism into the cleaner appearance of populism and nationalism.

"Members and supporters of Britain First, enjoy the sewers in which you live and breathe, but don't bother coming to Maidstone, your stench is not welcome here."

The Maidstone Anti-Racist Network has promised to pledge £10 towards the renovations for every protestor who has turned up.

A spokesman explained: "Following a German example we have decided to use Britain First's presence here against them.

"Eight supporters were in the town centre recently before they marched to the Maidstone mosque so we raised £80 which we will be giving to the Imam. The more Britain First members that turn up, the more money we will collect through crowdfunding for the mosque. We will use their campaign against them."

So far, through donations from well-wishers, the fund stands at over £350.

Business leaders set to head to Chevening for talks on Brexit moves

CRUNCH Brexit talks between the government and business leaders are expected to resume at a mansion near Sevenoaks next week.

Company chiefs descended on Chevening House back in July to hammer out a strategy for leaving the EU with cabinet members including David Davies and Tunbridge Wells' Greg Clark, and it is understood a second meeting will be held on September 15.

The luxurious Sevenoaks estate, traditionally home to the foreign secretary, has often been used by senior government figures to wine and dine esteemed guests.

Sources at July's summit told us the meeting was "positive" after business chiefs had previously complained about being left in the dark over Brexit by the government.

Some 34 business leaders were involved in the talks, chaired by Brexit secretary David Davis - who then swore them to secrecy on the discussions.

A month earlier, current foreign secretary, Boris Johnson, was spotted meeting defence secretary and constituency MP, Sir Michael Fallon, at local pub, The Bricklayers Arms in Chipstead.

The pair were then caught chatting on a bench overlooking the River Darent, sparking rumours the former London mayor was planning to relaunch a leadership bid with criticism of Theresa May growing louder.

These claims were swiftly denied, as sources said Mr Johnson "regularly sees Michael when he is staying at Chevening".

Locals have previously revealed it is no secret when ministers are in town, as they come with a huge security presence, and visitors approaching the gates of the 115-room estate are confronted by an armed guard.

The Department for Exiting the European Union declined to comment when contacted.

Grammar 'annexe' finally welcomes its first students

BRITAIN's first 'new' grammar school in decades opened its doors in Sevenoaks on Friday.

The government banned the opening of new selective schools in 1998, however, the all-girls Weald of Kent in Tonbridge successfully lobbied for a grammar 'annexe' to open in Sevenoaks - some 10 miles away - in 2015.

Parents argued that it was the

only major town in Kent without a grammar school and many are still frustrated that the annexe is only open to girls.

The Conservatives had pledged to expand the grammar system in their manifesto for the snap general election earlier this year, however, the policy was dropped from the Queen's Speech after the Tories failed to win a majority.

Spit guards become latest part of Kent Police's arsenal

MORE than 700 Kent Police officers now have added protection against being spat at by people they arrest.

The officers and volunteers from the special constabulary, as well as designated detention officers working in police custody, have been trained in using spit guards and issued as part of their personal protective equipment.

Chiefs say it will only be used

when it is proportionate and necessary.

An officer currently has to wait up to six months if they are spat at to find out if they have been infected and in many cases they have to take medication.

Assistant chief constable Tony Blaker said: "We have a duty of care to protect our officers in the course of their duties."



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Cosmic dust found in the White Cliffs of Dover

SCIENTISTS have discovered fossilised remains of cosmic dust within the White Cliffs of Dover which could provide vital clues as to the early solar system.

The discovery, published in the journal *Earth and Planetary Science Letters*, follows work conducted by Martin Suttle from Imperial College London.

He explained: "The iconic White Cliffs of Dover are

an important source of fossilised creatures that help us to determine the changes and upheavals the planet has undergone many millions of years ago. It is so exciting because we've now discovered that fossilised space dust is entombed alongside these creatures, which can also provide us with information about what was happening in our solar system at the time."

Former governor jailed after admitting sex with imported child-size doll

By Tom Pyman

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A FORMER school governor, who told a court he had sex with a child-sized doll, and tried to challenge whether his actions were against the law, has been jailed for 16 months.

David Turner, 72, from Ramsgate admitted importing and having sex with the 3ft 10in doll, described as "anatomically detailed and correct" and asked a judge to decide if it was indecent or obscene in law.

National Crime Agency officers arrested Turner in November last year after Border Force officers intercepted a 3ft doll which he was attempting to import from China.

The Border Force-led Fast Parcel Joint Border Intelligence Unit (JBIU) at Stansted Airport intercepted the parcel which was labelled as a mannequin and came with a fishnet body-stocking.

When NCA officers searched Turner's Ramsgate home in December they discovered two child sex dolls



VILE: A child sex doll

which he kept in his study and seized a computer, tablets, external hard drives and pen drives.

The charge relates to a 3ft 10in doll that was already in his possession, and which he had bought clothes for.

Analysis of Turner's computers showed he viewed websites selling items advertised as "flat chest love doll" and "mini silicone sex doll 65cms little breasts".

After being arrested Turner resigned as a school governor of St Ethelbert's Church Primary School in Ramsgate and from St Ethelbert's and Gertrude Church where he was a warden.

Following sentencing at Canterbury Crown Court on Friday, an NSPCC spokesperson said: "The importation of these grotesque dolls is an emerging problem and – as in this case – appears to be prevalent among individuals who have amassed indecent images and harmed children through their online activities.

"There is no evidence that these items help potential abusers. In fact, there is a real risk that those who use them could become desensitised and go on to abuse children.

"We're calling on the government to close a disturbing legal loophole and make it a crime to create, distribute or possess these dolls."



SPEECH: Labour's Rosie Duffield

MP breaks her silence to hit out at 'trolls'

ROSIE Duffield has told the House of Commons how she has experienced "vile" online abuse as she made her first parliamentary speech three months after being elected Canterbury MP.

The Labour candidate defied the odds when she beat Conservative stalwart Sir Julian Brazier in June's snap election but has maintained something of a low profile in the subsequent weeks.

Speaking during a debate on the European Union (Withdrawal) Bill, Ms Duffield said: "Many people – especially me – were completely stunned on the morning of June 9 to wake up and find that a new red dot had appeared on the previously entirely blue political map of Kent.

"I want to mention the so-called 'trolling' of my, mostly female, colleagues over the summer. I have already experienced a fair amount of trolling myself.

"This ranges from ill-informed, badly researched articles published as fact to unpleasant personal messages late at night, and vile, vitriolic insults from a small, but persistent, handful of activists from other parties posted online."

The MP said she acknowledged work being done to raise the issue and fight against it, insisting members on all sides should not resort to name-calling during political debate.

Woman who stabbed her ex found guilty

GILLIAN McKenzie, 53, from Ashford who stabbed her former partner in the shoulder and chest has been found guilty of attempted murder after telling police she wanted to put him "out of his misery".

A jury at Maidstone Crown Court found her guilty of the incident at her home in Hunter Avenue, Willesborough, on March 24 after she denied the charge.

The jury heard how McKenzie and her victim had previously been in a relationship and remained friends following their separation. They had been drinking together on the evening of McKenzie's birthday, which came to an abrupt end when for reasons unknown she stabbed him twice with a kitchen knife.

He was rushed to hospital amid concerns he had life-threatening injuries. He has since made a complete recovery.

A date for McKenzie's sentencing has not yet been set.

Make sure you pack plenty of poo bags

DOG walkers in Canterbury will soon face a hefty fine if they are not carrying at least two bags to pick up after their pets.

The city council is introducing the measure as part of a district-wide crackdown on fouling.

The scheme is set to be rolled out next month, with offenders facing the prospect of being slapped with an £80 fine on the spot.

A council spokesperson said: "As part of our approach to try and reduce dog fouling and encourage responsible dog ownership, we will be requiring people to demonstrate they have the means to clear up after their pet.

"As a rule of thumb, we'd expect people to be carrying at least two bags that can be used to dispose of dog excrement. If they do not have these, they could receive a fixed penalty notice.

"Our enforcement officers will approach these new powers with discretion and use their common sense. We are certain the public will support us in anything that has an impact in reducing dog fouling."

Fish and chip shop in race to be named top

THE top two fish and chip shops in London and the south east have been revealed - and Kent has a contender for the crown.

The National Fish & Chip Awards had seen a shortlist of six reach the final for the regional crown and that has now been whittled down to just two.

The winner will then go head-to-head with other chippies around the country in a bid to win the title of the nation's best.

And the final two includes the Newington Fish Bar in Ramsgate.

It will now look to batter Henley's of Wivenhoe in Colchester to land what are known as the Oscars of the fish and chip industry.

Regular contender Papa's Barn in Ditton had been in the running but failed to reach the final two.

The Fish and Chip Shop of the Year Award is one of 15 categories in the 2018 National Fish & Chip Awards, organised by Seafish, which campaigns on behalf of the seafood industry.

The overall winner is revealed in January.

Appeal to discuss transplant decisions to help save lives

By Tom Pyman

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SOME 133 people in Kent have died in the last decade while being on the waiting list for an organ transplant, according to new figures.

NHS Blood and Transplant revealed the tragic number of deaths to mark Organ Donation Week, which concludes today, and is now urging people to tell their families they want to become donors.

Hundreds of life saving transplants are being missed every year because families don't know what their relative wanted.

Left to make the decision for someone they love, families often decide it is safer to say no.

The reluctance to talk about the issue is contributing to a deadly shortage of organs.

In Kent, there are currently 137 people waiting for a transplant but bosses say they will only receive that life changing call if people make sure their families know they want to be a donor.

Anthony Clarkson, assistant director of organ donation and transplantation for NHS Blood and Transplant, said: "It's a tragedy that people are dying unnecessarily every year in Kent waiting for transplants.

"We know that if everyone who supported donation talked about it and agreed to donate, most of those lives would be saved.



TALK: Nurse Marc Coe with empty transplant boxes, showing missed opportunities

"This Organ Donation Week, tell your family you want to save lives. A few words now can make an extraordinary difference. It will also make things much easier for your family to make the right decision.

"If you want to save lives, don't leave it too late to talk to your family. In Kent there are more than 691,000 people on the NHS Organ Donor Register. However if you want to be a donor, your family's support is still needed for donation to go ahead.

"If you are unsure about donation, please

ask yourselves as a family: what would you do if one of you needed a transplant? Would you accept a life-saving organ? If you'd take an organ, shouldn't you be prepared to donate?"

NHS Blood and Transplant surveys show more than 80 per cent of people support organ donation but only around 49 per cent of people have ever talked about it.

Research also shows that women are 30 per cent more likely to start a conversation about organ donation than men.

£200,000 statue of Queen gets approval

THE first statue of the Queen sitting down has been given planning permission in Gravesend.

The £200,000 statue will be situated in St Andrew's Gardens and be placed on top of a stepped plinth.

The official unveiling is expected in the autumn. It is being created by Douglas Jennings who previously sculpted the war hero Mahinder Singh Pujji in the town.

Sign up to keep our beaches looking good

THERE's still time to take part in the Great British Beach Clean between September 15-18.

The Marine Conservation Society is running at least 10 beach cleans and surveys but so far only 72 volunteers have signed up.

To find out more visit www.mcsuk.org/waitrose or call 01989 566017.

Dame backs cliff plan

DAME Vera Lynn has pledged her support to a £1 million fundraising appeal by the National Trust to afford to buy 700,000 square metres of land immediately behind the White Cliffs of Dover.

The conservation charity bought the clifftops back in 2012 and now wants the additional land to improve public aspect and enhance the wildlife nearby.

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Campaign after 200 youths injured or killed on our roads

ALMOST 200 people aged between 16 and 24 have been killed or seriously injured on Kent's roads in the past three years, according to new figures.

Kent County Council's road safety team has this month launched the Speak Out campaign, aimed at giving young people the confidence to voice their concerns, with 193 car occupants involved in serious incidents since 2014.

Research shows that many 16 to 24-year-olds in the passenger seat would rather keep quiet and not tell the driver to be careful, even when they feel unsafe or uncomfortable by the way they are being driven.

Road safety team leader at KCC, Vicky Harvey, said: "Before closing your door, ask yourself: 'do I want to give this person my safety?' because



as soon as you shut that door, the driver has complete control of what they choose to do next.

"More young drivers are becoming aware that their passengers don't enjoy reckless driving and that

those who drive badly are viewed by their passengers as poor and potentially lethal drivers."

The month-long campaign highlights the serious implications and risks of not speaking out.

Officers could be charged after death crash horror

TWO police officers involved in a high-speed car chase could face criminal charges following the deaths of a child actor and his aunt who were killed in Bromley last summer.

Makayah McDermott, 10, and Rozanne Cooper, 34, died after 23-year-old Joshua Dobby crashed a stolen vehicle into the family while driving away from police in Lennard Road, Penge on August 31, 2016.

Three girls were also taken to hospital for injuries sustained in the collision.

Now, following an investigation into the officers' actions, police watchdog the Independent Police Complaints Commission (IPCC), has referred a file to the Crown Prosecution Service.

Operations manager Catherine Hall said: "Following

our investigation I have now decided to make a referral to the CPS as there is an indication that two officers may have committed criminal offences relating to their actions both during and following the pursuit.

"The referral relates to both the driver and the passenger of the police vehicle.

"I am satisfied we have gathered all the available evidence and it is now for the CPS to consider whether to bring criminal charges."

The IPCC investigation report has also been sent to the MPS to determine whether or not disciplinary proceedings should follow. In March, Dobby was sentenced to 12 years imprisonment after admitting manslaughter.

Time for chimney sweep HMRC phone call scam

KENT fire chiefs say now is the time to get chimneys inspected and swept so they're safe to use ahead of the winter months.

Kent Fire & Rescue Service advises a certified chimney sweep is called in by those with an open fire or wood burning stove to do the job.

TRADING Standards are warning of a telephone scam with callers claiming to work for HM Revenue and Customs.

The trickster claims the victim owes large amounts of money and that immediate payment is needed to prevent the police being involved.

Hospital trust's AGM

THE Medway NHS Foundation Trust's AGM takes place on September 26 at the Medway campus of Canterbury Christ Church University.

Starting at 6pm, those wishing to attend should contact Hannah Puttock on 01634 825292 or email hannah.puttock@nhs.net.

Town gets parking boost

EXTRA car parking spaces are now available in Ashford town centre after a site on Elwick Road opened.

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Grammar's exams U-turn

By Catherine Wylie
editorial@kosmedia.co.uk

A-LEVEL students who had their places at an Orpington grammar school withdrawn after failing to achieve certain grades were allowed to return to school this week.

The decision was welcomed by Orpington MP Jo Johnson, the science and universities minister, who called it a "sensible move" by a "great school".

After the U-turn, St Olave's said its goal has always been to "nurture boys who flourish" and help them fulfil "their full potential academically and in life generally".

Legal action was taken against the governing body of the high-achieving school after two students were told they could not continue their A-level studies into Year 13.

The pupils, who cannot be named for legal reasons, failed to achieve Bs in any of their subjects taken in the first year of sixth form, lawyers said.

Dan Rosenberg, from Simpson Milner solicitors, who has been acting for the families, said he was "pleased the school has agreed to readmit the children and withdraw their policy".

He added: "We would now expect all other schools with similar policies



CHANGES: St Olave's Grammar School has reversed its policy on A-level students which caused such controversy

to do the same".

The school said in a statement: "Following a review of the school's policy on entry to Year 13, the headmaster and governors of St Olave's Grammar School have taken the decision to remove this requirement and we have written to all parents of pupils affected to explain this and offer them the opportunity to return to the

school and continue their studies.

"Our aim as a school has been and continues to be to nurture boys who flourish and achieve their full potential academically and in life generally.

"Our students can grow and flourish, making the very best of their talents to achieve success."

St Olave's is far from the first school

to be accused of looking to drop under-performing students midway through their courses in a bid to keep their A-level results looking strong.

Education advisor and former Gravesend head teacher Peter Read has, in the past, accused Maidstone's Invicta Grammar School of a similar selection method - claims the school have always denied.

Cops smash cannabis farm

POLICE have discovered a cannabis farm cultivating some £100,000 worth of the drug in West Kingsdown.

Officers carried out a search of woodland near Fawkham Road on Monday and found two areas containing 492 cannabis plants.

The plants, that would have been ready to harvest in four to six weeks, were seized.

Police are now continuing their investigation to discover who was responsible for the farm. Anyone with information should call 01622 604100 quoting reference 20-0656.

Sea shelter hit by vandalism

AN historic public shelter on Herne Bay seafront has been damaged in a mindless attack - and now police want to hear from anyone who may have captured footage of the vandalism on their mobile phone.

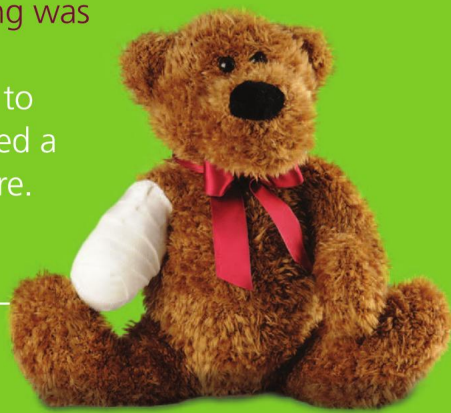
The Victorian shelter in Central Parade was targeted between 10pm and 11.42pm on Saturday, August 26 with window panes pulled out and large pieces of wood torn off the shelter.

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SITE: Medway Council has been left fuming once more after a second plan for 5,000 homes on the former MoD site in Hoo came crashing down around its ears this week

Lodge Hill crashes yet again as developer pulls plug on its plans

Tom Pyman looks at another remarkable week on what was Medway's primary site for house building

CONTROVERSIAL plans for 5,000 homes on the site of a nationally protected bird habitat in Medway have been scrapped at the eleventh hour, sparking a furious response from the unitary authority's leader.

Lodge Hill has been a long-running saga, stretching back years and has been mired in a constant battle between concerns for the environment of any development, against the south east's insatiable demand for housing and an insistence from central government for local authorities to identify suitable areas for building.

But now the former Ministry of Defence site faces an uncertain future after ambitious plans to build thousands of homes were dramatically dropped - delighting campaigners.

However, it seems unlikely the Lodge Hill saga will end just yet.

The Defence Infrastructure Organisation, an operating arm of the Ministry of Defence, and the Homes and Communities Agency confirmed on Wednesday it was pulling the scheme.

It comes just two years after a similar scheme by property development and investment giant Land Securities floundered amid concerns for the habitat of nightingales in the area. Having been given the green light by the council it was then

called in by the Department for Communities and Local Government, with a public inquiry scheduled for 2018.

That seems likely to still occur as it is not dependant on who is behind the scheme.

Land Securities then pulled the plug on progressing with its ambitions for the scheme two years ago this month.

Both it and the most recent abandoned plans, have seen millions wasted in preparation work and development.

Previously used for bomb disposal testing, development of the land would have also destroyed Chatenden Woods which is classified as a Site of Scientific Interest and home to around one per cent of the UK's nightingale population, which has declined by 90 per cent in the last 50 years.

But it was also providing a major chunk of Medway's housing needed to meet the demand of an ever-increasing population.

And it is that which has enraged Medway Council leader Alan Jarrett.

In an echo of comments made by former leader Rodney Chambers when Land Securities pulled out, the Conservative said: "I am appalled this important scheme is going back to the drawing board, further delaying a project which would create jobs and much needed homes for the

area.

"A succession of agencies have let the people of Medway down by constantly delaying this important site which has huge potential.

"A great deal of work has gone into establishing that the site is a sustainable location for a new development, and owners and developers need to continue to push forward with providing high quality, energy efficient homes for our existing residents, their families in the years to come and those looking to relocate here - and not forgetting the extensive employment opportunities the site could offer residents.

"While I am hugely disappointed that the current scheme for Lodge Hill has been withdrawn, I now eagerly await the new plans expected to be put forward by the applicants in the coming months.

"It's time for agencies to get off the fence and bring this site forward for development.

"By 2035 we must build 30,000 new homes to keep up with our expanding population and therefore each and every suitable development site is key.

"Medway's extensive 20-year regeneration plan is well and truly underway and this important site is part of our ambitious vision of becoming a leading waterfront university city of 330,000 people.

"Over the next ten years residents, visitors, businesses and those from

further afield, will absolutely recognise Medway as an increasingly desirable place to live, work, learn and visit."

But the scheme was never popular with some groups, with a number of organisations staging high profile campaigns against it.

More than 12,000 people objected to the planning application when it was approved by Medway Council in 2014, prompting the government call in.

John Bennett is chief executive of the Kent Wildlife Trust.

He said: "After a huge amount of work over many years to protect Lodge Hill, alongside RSPB and other conservation partners, we welcome the common sense shown by the withdrawal of this damaging development application.

"We look forward, optimistically, to a positive future for the area and its wildlife, which is important for Kent and the country as a whole."

Chris Corrigan, the RSPB's director for England added: "Thousands of people joined the RSPB and Kent Wildlife Trust in expressing their shock and dismay at plans to build on Lodge Hill.

"The withdrawal of the plans is a clear sign that the voices of local people have been heard.

"It is concerning that these proposals were approved in the first place, and this concern is something we believe the planning inquiry

would have shared.

"Lodge Hill was declared a SSSI by the government because it is the best place for nightingales in the UK, a species that, in England, has declined by around 90 per cent in the last half century leaving less and less to bring their beautiful song to the English countryside.

"Areas as important as Lodge Hill should be protected and celebrated and not threatened with housing."

Rochester and Strood MP Kelly Tolhurst added: "I am delighted that years of hard work by residents and local environment charities has resulted in what we have long hoped for. This is a victory for common sense.

"It was never right for our natural habitats and communities be sacrificed for poorly thought-out plans that would only bring misery to one of our most beautiful areas.

"Medway needs a realistic vision for the next 20 years that puts the community and prosperity at its heart.

"I will continue to push for a local plan that looks to put Medway on the map rather than be a tick-boxing exercise to please officials and developers."

■ What do you think of Lodge Hill? Share your views and join the debate. Email us at editorial@kosmedia.co.uk and we'll feature the best on our letters' page.

£102m traffic hotspot solution?

Tom Pyman went along to find out about a major new scheme for the Stockbury roundabout which could transform one of the county's pinch points. But some say it's not enough to make a difference

A PROPOSED £102m solution to easing congestion at one of the county's most notorious traffic pinch-points and accident hotspots has been unveiled this week.

Highways England opened a consultation into plans to improve the Stockbury roundabout, which links junction 5 of the M2 and the A249 between Maidstone and Sittingbourne, with the aim of starting work as soon as 2020.

A dozen options, including an A249 flyover above the roundabout, and a plan to replace the roundabout with a three-tier interchange, were initially considered by roads chiefs but scrapped because they decided they would not have a sufficient effect on reducing congestion, or they were too expensive.

Instead, a fresh consideration, known as Option 12A, has been brought forward for the public to feed back on.

This option will see the roundabout enlarged to provide a new through route for cars using the A249, new dedicated left-turn lanes for traffic travelling from the A249 southbound to the M2 London-bound and from the A249 northbound to the M2 coast-bound.

A new single lane slip road from the M2 coast-bound to the A249 northbound which would avoid the roundabout altogether is also proposed, while the existing connection from the Maidstone Road to the roundabout would be closed, with Maidstone Road re-routed to link with Oad Street.

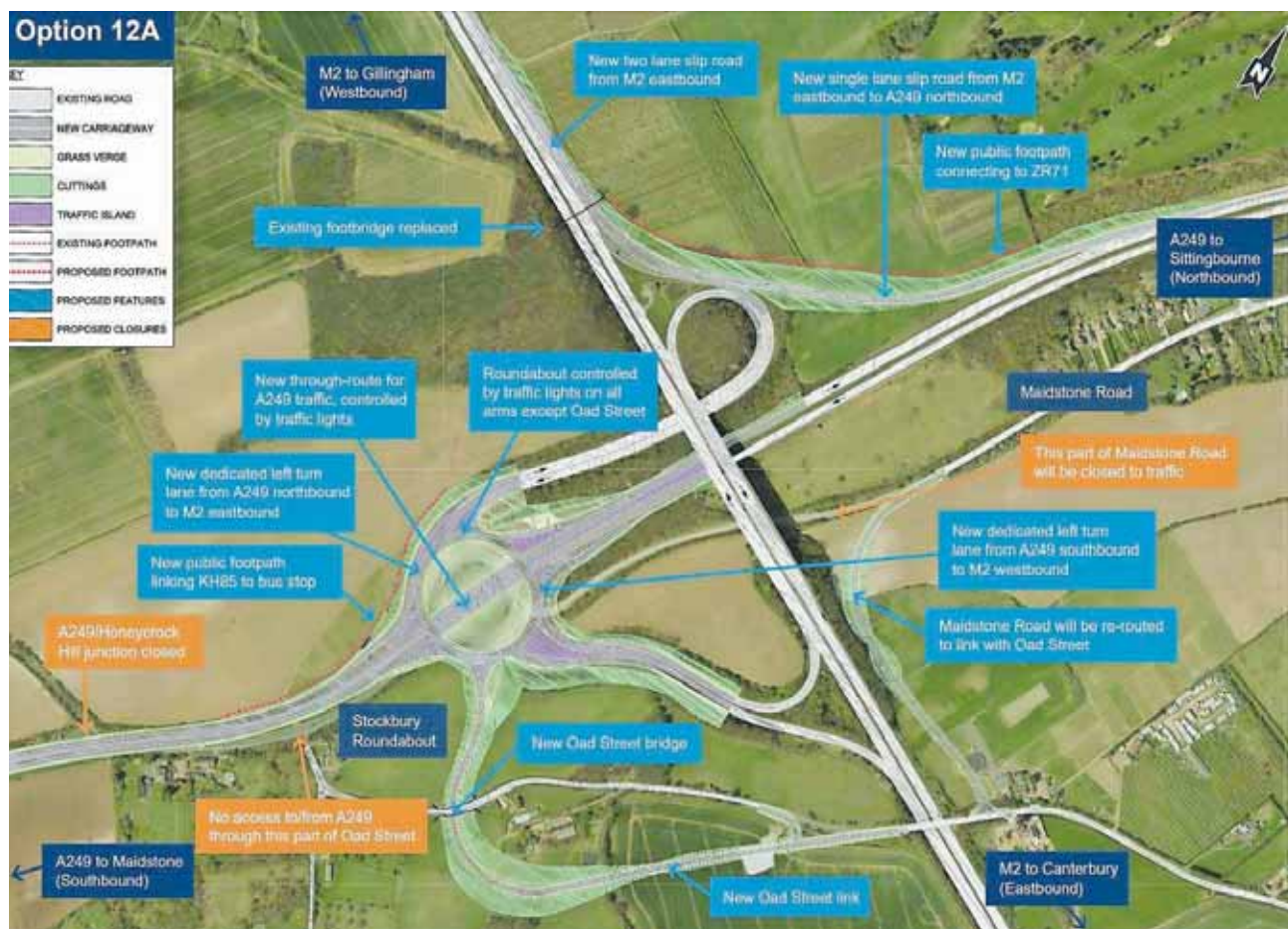
Additionally, the existing junction of Oad Street with the A249 would be closed and a new link would be provided south of the existing Oad Street to connect directly with the roundabout, while the Honeycrook Hill junction with the A249 would also be closed for safety reasons.

Bosses say all movements through the junction would be controlled by traffic lights, with the exception of the Oad Street 'arm', which would have 'give way' markings at the roundabout entry, and that the proposal also includes some measures to improve facilities for people walking to the bus stops and connecting to local public footpaths.

At a proposed cost of £102m, it is technically over-budget, but highways chiefs insist efficiencies will be found and they expect the figure to fall within the £50m to £100m bracket outlined by the government.

Senior project manager Neil Andrew told KoS: "We've gone through the options looking at the high level objectives that were set – that is looking towards reducing the number of incidents because this junction is identified within the top 50 national casualty locations, with 111 personal injury accidents between 2011 and 2015.

"We can see it's a very high accident location for sideswipes as people are moving around the roundabout



PLANS: This is how it could look. Have your say on the plans during the consultation period which runs until next month.

and also as people are approaching on the A249.

"It's also looked towards journey times so trying to reduce the congestion experienced on both the approaches from the M2 and A249.

"The scheme we're developing is also aimed at keeping traffic on the strategic road network.

"A large number of individuals at the moment are using rural roads to get around the junction and causing subsequent congestion and anxiety for residents and local communities.

"The commitment made to government is to begin work on this junction by March 2020 and at the moment that is what our current programme is showing.

"In terms of an actual construction project, for a scheme of this nature, we're looking at 18 to 24 months so we're anticipating this being open to traffic by summer 2022."

Before then, however, there is a lengthy, complicated process of public engagement, as has been seen elsewhere in the county with other major roads projects such as the Lower Thames Crossing and the proposed lorry park designed to ease the problems caused by Operation Stack.

The consultation runs until Tuesday, October 17, where people can attend a series of exhibition events, and then have their say on the plans us-

ing either the paper questionnaire or the online version.

A public consultation report to document feedback will then be produced in December before a preferred route announcement is made early next year.

A further, statutory consultation will then follow in the summer, with bosses hoping the project will be classed as a Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project (NSIP).

After that, a development consent order (DCO) application would need to be submitted, most likely during the winter of 2018, before the planning inspectorate evaluates the scheme and application the following year.

Between 2019 and 2020, a recommendation will be given to the government and the transport secretary will then make the final decision, after which construction can commence.

However, Labour councillor for Swale Borough Council, Roger True-love, said the proposals weren't adequate and that the option of a flyover, which Highways England claims would have cost some £184m, was required to solve the problems.

"We already have tremendous tail-backs on the A249 related to traffic lights at the Stockbury roundabout," he said.

"This plan maintains traffic lights and so I can't see it helping. All they are providing is a slip road for traffic coming from London that wants to use the roundabout.

"It seems that it is an invitation for all traffic to use Maidstone Road and Oad Street and it will hit the villages.

"It will slightly alleviate the current problem but with developments in the local plan it just isn't adequate."

Concerns have also been raised over the impact on traffic approaching the Kent Showground, further down the A249 in Detling, for popular events such as the Kent County Show.

Indeed there were severe delays for visitors at this summer's show back in June following a smash on the M20, but Mr Andrew insisted it was too soon to draw up specific plans for how that will work during the construction process.

"We will be continuing close engagement with key stakeholders, whether that's the showground, major operators or freight to work on our construction management plans," he said.

"One of the key things we do when we commence and undertake this is try to minimise the disruption caused to the road users, and especially key events such as those utilising the showground which are key for the re-

gional economy.

"We will do whatever we can to minimise the impact of our construction on such events as that.

"But it's at such an early stage at the moment it wouldn't make sense to start looking at the construction until we've gone through the process of engaging and getting the government's support on the option that we are planning on taking forward.

"There could be tweaks following the public consultation so we can't start finalising plans on how we're going to set about delivering this complex infrastructure."

A series of public exhibitions will be held at the following dates, times and locations around the county over the coming few weeks:

Stockbury Memorial Hall (Cricket Club) between 2pm and 8pm on Monday, September 11

Forum Shopping Centre, Sittingbourne, between 10am and 2pm on Saturday, September 16

Sheppey Gateway, Sheerness, between 2pm and 8pm on Wednesday, September 20

The Mall Maidstone, between 9am and 5pm on Saturday, September 23

■ **For more information on the project, including the consultation questionnaire, visit <http://bit.ly/2w6SgJF>**

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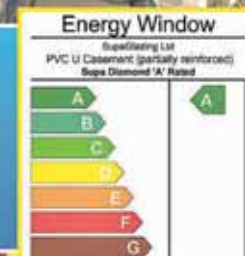
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Can we feel the pain as MPs call for more assistance

A report published this week says the social and economic gap is widening between some of our coastal areas and those inland. But just what are the issues and why do some towns flourish while others continue to struggle to improve?

By Tom Pyman

Tom.Pyman@archant.co.uk

UNEMPLOYED workers in Kent's coastal towns need to be prepared to "look further" to get into work, an MP has said.

The call comes following a report by the Social Market Foundation released this week which suggested the social and economic gap between coastal communities, and those more inland, was widening.

Areas of Kent including Thanet and Dover were noted among those struggling, with the think tank claiming average wages are £3,600 a year lower in these "pockets of deprivation".

Indeed figures from the last financial year showed 5.5 per cent of the Thanet population were unemployed, compared to 3.8 per cent across the south east and 4.7 per cent nationwide.

The SMF report states: "There has been a widespread belief that the economies of coastal towns have performed poorly relative to the rest of the country, with a lack of well-paid job opportunities for people in these areas."

"Many point to structural, long-standing economic and social problems following the decline of domestic tourism in the UK."

"Some also point to the fact that many coastal communities are poorly connected to major employment centres in the UK, which compounds the difficulties faced by residents in these areas."

"Not only do they lack local job opportunities, but travelling elsewhere for work is also relatively difficult."

That difficulty has perhaps been exacerbated in recent years, with train fares for commuters rising at a significant rate year-on-year.

South Thanet MP Craig Mackinlay told KoS he accepted those challenges but insisted there were jobs out there for people in his constituency.

"Some of the population should look slightly further," the Conservative politician said.

"It might mean having to travel to Canterbury, for example – but I still think there are lots of jobs available within a reasonable striking distance and I hope people will say 'I'll have a look'."

"Thanet Earth advertises 50 jobs a day. For people to build a CV, they need to get into work

early."

Neighbouring Conservative MP Sir Roger Gale agreed there were jobs available but admitted it can be difficult to get out of a vicious cycle while unemployed.

"Public transport across east Kent is not good – it goes around the coast but not in the middle," he said.

"It's easy to say 'get on your bike' and it can be extremely difficult, but if you really want to work, you will find it."

"If every time you go somewhere else it costs you a fiver, there's a disincentive, so we have to make it more attractive."

"Many of those currently unemployed are lower-middle age people who had jobs but do not have the required 'modern' skills."

"I've been unemployed and I remember how dispiriting it is."

"It's easier when you're young to say you can wash plates in a restaurant. When you get older and say you'll go out and look but people tell you you're too old and don't have the skills."

"If you're in London, the world is your oyster – there's always someone who wants someone to do something."

"Out on the periphery it gets harder. Even if you live in Margate or Cliftonville if you've got to spend a lot of money travelling to places, you think 'is it really worth it?'."

"There are still places of deprivation around the coast where they have not had the opportunities to reinvent themselves."

By their very nature, coastal towns do not have '360 degree accessibility' and Mr Mackinlay said geography does play a part, but cited Brighton as an example of a success story.

"It's perfectly achievable to have very wealthy areas on the coast," he said.

And indeed Whitstable a little further along the coast is proof that once sleepy towns can be reactivated and become major success stories, delivered through a combination of history and modern facilities.

Just 20 years ago it was very much the poor relation to nearby Canterbury. But a growing admiration among the press and sitting just an hour outside of London saw the once quiet fishing town transformed, with second hand furniture stores being replaced with swanky boutiques in its town centre, and some careful and well thought out development by the city council in keeping with the area.

Broadstairs too has remained immune from the problems, pulling in crowds and, like



MIXED: Broadstairs, above, continues to be a hugely popular destination all year round. Near neighbour Margate, right, continues to struggle during the winter, while Whitstable has become the county's big coastal success story



Whitstable, buoyed by the fact visitors need to get out of their cars to explore the town and the beach surrounding it.

One could also argue that with the high speed rail link, east Kent is in fact far more accessible than many other areas of the country, and

Thanet District Council leader Chris Wells pointed to the area's booming tourism industry as evidence that it is turning a corner - with

huge crowds flocking to the new £4m Wetherspoons pub in Ramsgate which opened last

Continued from page 15

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Continued from page 15

week as well as established attractions such as the Turner Contemporary art gallery and the recently-revamped Dreamland leisure complex.

Cllr Wells said: "Over the bank holiday weekend we had 120,000 visitors, there's a 22 per cent increase in jobs and a 15 per cent increase in trips."

"Businesses know things are happening here and it's becoming a real success story."

The Ukip councillor said Thanet was still behind average figures because it started so far behind historically, as suggested in the SMF report.

Sir Roger added: "The bucket-and-spade seaside towns closer to London took a dive in the 1950s and 60s when cheap foreign travel arrived, and they have since had to reinvent themselves."

"Cliftonville suffered considerably but that's turning around because of the Turner Contemporary and Dreamland."

"Likewise, Herne Bay in my constituency has established itself as a culture centre, with the carnival, air show and radio festival."

Cllr Wells also pointed out that wages in Thanet were rising at a rate two times quicker than the UK and the south east, insisting the gap was being closed rapidly.

"The national average of people who live in private rented homes is 20 per cent - of those, 17 per cent are reliant on housing benefit," Cllr Wells said.

"In our hotspot areas, 70 per cent are living in that sector and 70 per cent are on benefits. Some of that deprivation is incredibly deep-rooted."

Mr Mackinlay added: "Our tourism appeal is a good base to build on and it's why I'm so supportive of Manston because it can provide those jobs."

"The key to tourism is to get people to do things out of season as well."

"It's all very well being hugely busy in the summer holidays but that's no good in January, you've got to encourage people all year round."



CONCERN: Conservative MPs Sir Roger Gale, left, and Craig Mackinlay. Pictures: ADY KERRY

The future of the Manston Airport site has been a contentious issue across the district, with RiverOak Strategic Partners looking to reopen it as a cargo hub, while site owners Stone Hill Park have submitted a planning application for their own project, which includes 2,500 homes and leisure facilities.

Cllr Wells responded: "I am genuinely surprised to hear that Craig Mackinlay is concerned about geography and jobs for Thanet."

"It would appear that his and Sir Roger's fantasy cargo hub is in some way exempt from the geography issue."

"Otherwise, I am not sure how they justify the supposed 30,000 jobs they claim will emanate from this cargo hub."

The tourism boom could be attributed to some of the knock-on effects of Brexit, in that a weak pound is discouraging holidaymakers from travelling abroad, and instead encouraging them more towards embarking on 'staycations'.

Mr Mackinlay said: "The pound has been

here before, it goes up and down and at the moment, yes, it does make holidays more expensive if you want to go abroad, and it's not pleasant going through airports."

"In Thanet we've got a great offering of Blue Flag beaches [an award meaning those visiting can be sure that they are clean, safe and meet the highest environmental standards] and tourist attractions."

However, it is not just in Thanet where there is a feeling of having been left behind in the past.

The SMF report noted: "Particularly in the south east, some coastal communities are pockets of significant deprivation surrounded by affluence - meaning their problems are often overlooked by policymakers."

Dover and Deal MP Charlie Elphicke suggested his constituency had historically suffered in that regard, but insisted the towns were moving in the right direction.

"This report raises a vital issue of our times - how we must invest more in the historic towns

and regions across the whole of our nation," he said.

"For too long, Britain has worked for London and the big cities, rather than communities like Dover."

"We've worked tirelessly to secure £500m of investment for Dover and Deal since 2010."

"Things are moving forward - Burlington House is demolished and the new shops and cinema at the St James development are rising."

"And the latest official figures say average earnings in Dover and Deal rose 10 per cent in a year."

"Yet everyone knows that in our corner of Kent we always have to fight twice as hard. That needs to change."

"We need to do more to boost Britain's regions and coastal communities. Bringing back duty free sales on travel to Europe after Brexit would help."

"And we need to improve our transport links. The high speed train has done much to boost prosperity. Now we need to upgrade our roads, like the M20 and A2, to increase job prospects and ensure we are ready on day one for Brexit."

At the same time as the report's publication, the government pledged a further £40m investment in coastal areas to help boost employment and tourism.

A spokesperson for the Department for Communities and Local Government said this week: "This government recognises the challenges facing coastal communities and our investment in local growth is already making a big difference."

"Our Coastal Communities Fund has provided £170m for 278 projects since 2012, bringing in two million extra visitors, creating almost 500 new businesses and securing 6,000 new jobs."

Minister Jake Berry added: "This year is already looking like another record year for staycations and our latest round of funding will help attract even more visitors to the Great British coast so that our coastal communities can thrive."



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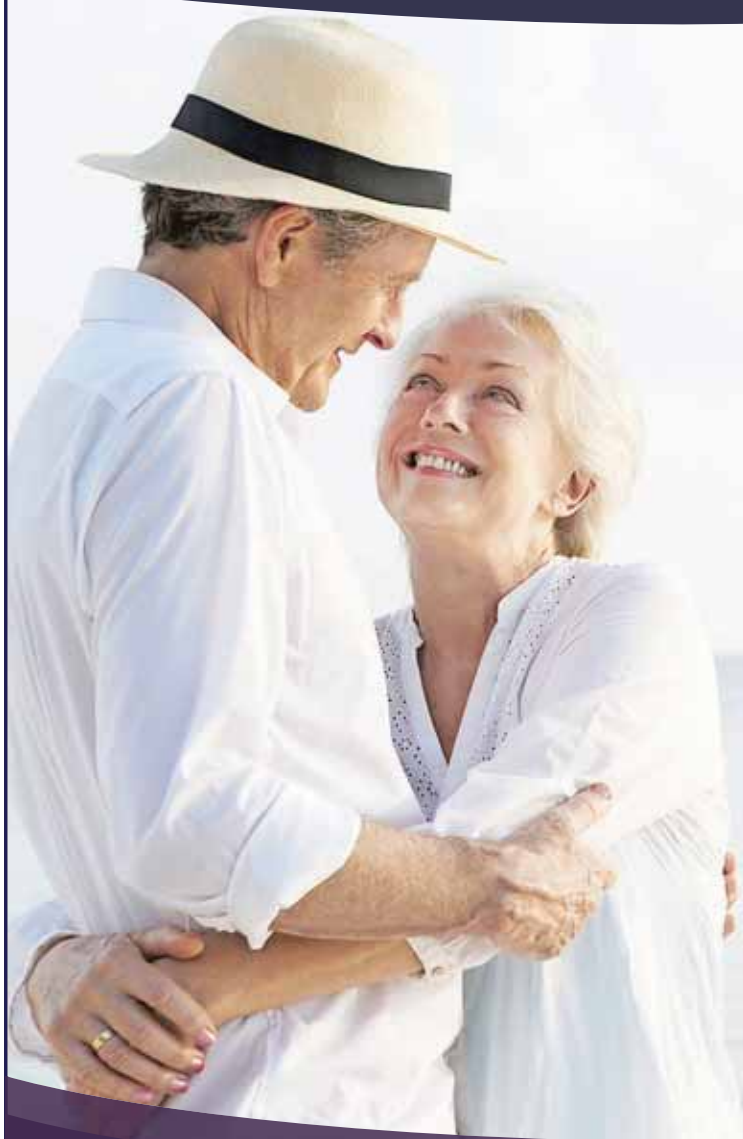
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Was this penned by Jack the Ripper?

Chris Britcher on how postcard set to sell for thousands of pounds amid claims it could have been signed by the notorious Victorian serial killer

A POSTCARD which claims to have been sent by infamous Victorian killer Jack the Ripper, is set to go under the hammer at an auction in Folkestone next month.

The postcard was received at Ealing Police Station on October 29, 1888 from someone claiming to be responsible for the brutal murder of at least five women in the slums of the East End.

Never found, the killer spread panic in the capital with his horrific murders which involved cutting the throats of women and then brutally mutilating them.

Ever since then, a whole industry has grown up around just who was the guilty man.

It was one of a number of notes sent to police claiming responsibility during the long-running manhunt.

It contains a threat to kill two women and was sent on a significant date. Mary Kelly, one of the five of his confirmed victims, was murdered less than two weeks later.

It reads: "Beware there is two women I want here they are bastards, and I mean to have them with my knife is still in good order it is a students knife and I hope you liked the half of kidney. I am Jack the Ripper."

The card is being sold by Grand Auctions in Folkestone on behalf of Doreen Hall, whose late husband John was an officer with the Metropolitan Police.

He was given the item as a memento after the Ripper file was closed and he left the force in 1966. He later became a publican in Dover.

Mrs Hall said: "I found the card when I was going through my husband's papers after his death. It makes you stop and think that when you touch the

postcard it could have been handled by Jack the Ripper 130 years ago. It's a scary thought."

Jonathan Riley of Grand Auctions says the postcard was received by the police in 1888 so it is contemporary to the period when the Whitechapel murders – as they were known – were bringing terror to the streets of London

The authenticity of the card as a vital piece of police evidence is, says the auction house, "indisputable" – it was placed in the Met's official Jack the Ripper file where it remained until it was closed.

Said Mr Riley: "The comment about his student's knife could be important because many people thought the murderer may have had some medical or surgical training."

Grand Auctions has consulted a range of experts, including the Jack the Ripper Museum in London and The Whitechapel Society, especially Stewart Evans, author of a book about letters relating to Jack the Ripper.

He told Mr Riley that it was definitely from the correct era and authentic.

Mr Riley added: "Nothing like this from the police files has ever come up for sale before with such convincing provenance, so we are dealing with a very rare artefact indeed involving someone who still casts a chilling shadow even after all these years.

"More than a century after the Whitechapel murders, the killings have never been solved and the identity of Jack the Ripper remains a mystery. It continues to grip the public's imagination and the story is never very far from the news headlines, with books, films and TV programmes all dedicated to the subject.

"So could this postcard with its 43 menacing words be from

WHO WAS THE RIPPER?

AT the end of the 19th century, Whitechapel was one of the poorest parts of London. And it was there amid the slums that one of the most infamous serial killers spread his terror by targeting prostitutes.

Coined 'Jack the Ripper' by police – allegedly after it was used in a letter to police (not the one now up for auction) – he was responsible for five confirmed, brutal, murders.

Known as the 'canonical five' they were Mary Ann Nicols, Annie Chapman, Elizabeth Stride, Catherine Eddowes and Mary Jane Kelly. All were killed between August 31 and November 9 1888.

Their throats were cut prior to their abdomens being mutilated. Internal organs were removed from three of the victims.

Quite aside from its brutality, the huge police investigation's failure to catch the man saw this mystery figure pass into legend with theories abounding to the present day as to who was responsible.

Regular tours of where the killings took place still take place in Whitechapel – now almost completely unrecognisable from Victorian times.

Beware there is two women I want here. they are bastards. and I mean to have them my knife is still in good order it is a students knife and I hope you liked the half of kidney. I am Jack the Ripper

MACABRE COLLECTORS' ITEMS

The appetite for Jack the Ripper memorabilia continues to be strong around the world.

While experts are divided as to how much the postcard in Folkestone will fetch when the hammer finally falls, other items have commanded enormous sums.

In 2015 a shawl worn by one of the victims of the Ripper – Catherine Eddowes – went for sale with an estimated price of £2.2million. What made that unique and so desired by collectors was that it was believed to contain blood from the Ripper.

Subsequent DNA tests led some to suggest it confirmed the theory the Ripper was Aaron Kosminski, a Polish

immigrant and one of the suspects at the time. However those results have subsequently been disputed by experts.

In 2014, a collection of items belonging to a police officer involved in the murders case in 1888 sold to a private collector for some £17,700 – some five times their estimate. The lot included the handcuffs, truncheon, whistle and notebook PC Edward Watkins was carrying on the night he found one of the murder victims.

And in June of this year a printed police poster from 1888, warning those living in Whitechapel about the murders, sold for more than £26,500 when it was sold at Christie's in New York.

MYSTERY: The scrawled postcard, above, was part of the Met's initial investigations into the killer back in the late 19th century

the Ripper? We will never know for sure."

The postcard has an estimate of £1,500-£2,500 although the auction house says it expects it

to sell for much more.

Added Mr Riley: "A poster warning people to be alert to the Ripper all those years ago fetched £30,000 in an auction,

so we have no idea how much this might go for."

The sale takes place at the Folkestone head office of Grand Auctions on October 9.

Molly's legacy takes shape as friends and family tackle illness

Following her death in June, the work of Molly McLaren, 23, is set to live on with a programme to tackle eating disorders

By Tom Pyman

Tom.Pyman@archant.co.uk

FRIENDS of tragic Molly McLaren insist they are determined to "continue what she started" by shining the light on a hidden illness.

The popular 23-year-old student from Cobham near Gravesend, was killed after being stabbed in a Chatham shopping centre car park in June.

She had previously suffered from an eating disorder, before setting up a blog, where she wrote positive posts in a bid to help and inspire others.

Following her death, friends and family established the Molly McLaren Foundation, aiming to raise both money and awareness of such disorders, and more than £20,000 has already been collected in around ten

weeks.

Now they have vowed to ensure Miss McLaren leaves a lasting legacy which benefits many others.

Amy Lee, who worked with Miss McLaren at a Ted Baker store and remained close friends long after she moved onto another job, is a trustee of the foundation.

She told us: "After everything that happened, we all got together at [Miss McLaren's parents] Jo and Doug's and we really wanted to work out what the next steps looked like," she said.

"When you're overwhelmed with grief and you're in shock and not really sure what to do, you feel really helpless.

"So the idea of the foundation was to take all of this energy that we all had and put it into something positive.

"The aim is to raise awareness of eating disorders because it's underfunded, I don't believe it's particularly

well advertised or spoken about and our focus is to make sure people know what help is out there before they get to the GP or medical side of things."

The help she refers to are blogs like the one set up by Miss McLaren, and services offered by charities such as Beat, which is set to receive the lion's share of money raised by the foundation.

On October 27, ambassadors of the charity will speak at the University of Kent's Medway campus, where Miss McLaren studied exercise, sport and health education, and they will be joined by her fellow student and friend, Jen Hamer, who has also previously suffered from an eating disorder.

Miss Hamer is also helping to organise a family fun day at Medway Park the Sunday before, October 22, where she is hoping for 300 people to take part in an array of health related activities.



POPULAR: Molly McLaren was all smiles, but had her challenges too

She said: "I used to get very angry because we used to have a lot of discussions and Molly would say 'I've gone back to the doctors but I'm on a waiting list' and it used to infuriate me.

"How is that right that the help is not there?

"It has to change, and the more awareness that's created, the more people speak about it, the more chance there is going to be that help available. There's got to be a turn somewhere.

"But when you face mental health

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FRIENDS: Miss McLaren and Amy Lee who is now a trustee of the foundation set up in her honour.

issues, it gives you strength you can apply to so many areas of your life.

"Molly could help people because the advice and words she would use

could help you in so many areas.

"No matter what the problem was, there were always words she could say that would make it a little bit easier."

Last month saw hundreds flock to the funeral of Miss McLaren, at Gravesend Crematorium, where her parents had requested mourners

wear as much colour as possible.

Miss Lee said: "There's a lot of things Molly did. She had a great attitude towards life in general.

"She wasn't materialistic, it was more about your memories, your values and what you stand for.

"She was inspirational because she was so selfless yet she had so much going on.

"At face value, she was the absolute picture of health, but behind closed doors that absolutely wasn't the case.

"The more you got to know Molly and the more time you spent with her you found her inspirational because despite everything she had going on, if you had a bad day she was all ears – your problem was her problem.

"To provide all of this for other people and then go home and know that you are actually quite vulnerable yourself, takes a massive person."

Jane Glew is the deputy director of the university's school of sport and exercises sciences, who worked closely with Miss McLaren, and gave a tribute at her funeral.

She told us this week how bringing the foundation and university together would help create synergy.

"We're working very closely with the foundation at the university and helping them wherever we can," she said.

"In terms of the work Molly was already doing, she wanted very much to move things forward and look at living healthily and using health and exercise to overcome adversity of any mental health illness situation.

"People are aware of people having eating disorders, but I don't think they know about the breadth of numbers there are, the different age groups involved and the different lev-

els that people may be experiencing.

"People think they will always be able to identify if a member of their family, friend or partner has an eating disorder but that's not the case and often it's not that noticeable until things are at quite a severe level.

"So we're looking at ways in which we can support people before it gets to that more serious situation and show them you can move forward positively.

"What we always remembered about Molly was her bouncing down the corridor, full of enthusiasm, always a smile on her face, leopard print jacket and torn jeans.

"She just was a whirlwind.

"Wherever she was, there was positivity. It didn't matter what sort of challenges there were that day, she just lit up the room and had such a positive impact on everybody."

Miss Lee added: "We're trying to make sure she gets remembered for all the right reasons and that we continue what she started.

"It is under studied and people say 'I haven't heard about it so it's not there'.

"The foundation has got so much awareness for such a horrific reason and if we don't channel that into something positive then it's completely a waste.

"Being able to have such a big voice, even if it reaches another five people than it did yesterday, that's a positive, and something we focus on every day."

Joshua Stimpson, 25, and of High Street in Wouldham, Rochester, has been charged with her murder and will appear in court on September 18 to enter a plea.

■ **To donate to the foundation visit <http://bit.ly/2w0jf5J>**

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JK Rowling's historic backdrop for hit show

Strike is back this weekend in *The Silkworm* and you may just recognise one of the places the stars used for filming

By Chris Murphy
editorial@kosmedia.co.uk

TONIGHT'S eagerly anticipated next installment in the *Comoran Strike* drama series - based on books written by Harry Potter author JK Rowling - will feature scenes shot in Kent.

Last weekend saw the conclusion of *The Cuckoo Calling*, a three-part dramatisation of the book penned under the author's nom de plume, Robert Galbraith.

It proved a ratings winner, pulling in an audience of some 5.5 million.

Now the next episodes - based around the follow-up book *The Silkworm* - will be broadcast next weekend.

And fans will spot a familiar landmark as a location, after filming took place at Penshurst Place near Tonbridge.

Filming took place at the venue in March 2017, when the local landmark played host to stars including Kent born actor and Musketeers star

Tom Burke - who plays the central character *Comoran Strike* - Holliday Grainger, Bafta award-winning Monica Dolan and former *Downton Abbey* star Jeremy Swift.

Penshurst's famous medieval Baron's Hall, Porcupine Pantry and the outside Lime Walk will be seen in the drama.

Ben Thomas, general manager, Penshurst Place and Gardens explained: "The *Strike* series has got off to a wonderful start and is proving hugely entertaining. We look forward seeing Penshurst Place feature prominently in the second case the protagonist *Comoran Strike* needs to solve during *The Silkworm*."

"I can't give the plot away, other than to say that the scene shot in the Baron's Hall is not for the faint-hearted."

Penshurst Place has been owned by the Sidney family since 1552; after passing through the hands of two of Henry IV's sons, followed by Henry VIII who used it as a hunting lodge. Given to Anne of Cleves as part of her divorce settlement from Henry VIII, it was then briefly in the

hands of Sir Ralph Fane and was finally gifted by Henry VIII's son, Edward VI, to his loyal steward and tutor, Sir William Sidney.

Penshurst is no stranger to the camera - it was used in the hugely popular BBC drama *Wolf Hall*, *Merlin*, *The Other Boleyn Girl* and *Anne of The Thousand Days*.

This time, the film crew was on site for two consecutive days.

Lucy McLeod, Penshurst Place head of marketing and events, said: "I would say the crew were around 50 production staff with additional extras for the Porcupine Pantry and Baron's Hall scenes."

"They had really good weather when they were here which meant we didn't have to reshoot anything as a result of wind or whatever."

"Their access to the Porcupine Pantry meant it was shut to the public all day - it's the first time the Porcupine Pantry has been used as one of our set locations and it will certainly be exciting to see how it translates on screen."

"Both Tom Burke and Holliday Grainger were here, one of the shots I



oversaw was of them both exiting the Pantry whilst Tom tucked into a sandwich. They had to reshoot this a few times and poor old Tom had to take a bite out of a sandwich for every shot. He must have been ridiculously full afterwards."

"I've been informed that the Baron's Hall scene should only be viewed by those with a strong stomach. I oversaw the set dressing of it and I must say, seeing it full of gothic furniture was incredible."

"The crew were very well-behaved and as they were from the BBC, we

ended up knowing quite a lot of their staff from previous productions. Their location manager for instance, was the same chap we worked really closely with when we filmed *Wolf Hall*."

General manager Mr Thomas added: "This was very different from the run of the mill filming of period drama that we have grown used to hosting at Penshurst Place."

"It was a closed set, which means we are embargoed from saying too much until transmission. The scenes that were filmed here are dark in a-

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HIT: Holliday Grainger and Tom Burke, left, behind-the-scenes picture of filming in March, centre.

ture and somewhat surreal.

"The crew went to elaborate lengths to make sure that the Baron's Hall was in total darkness, which was key for the scenes that were being filmed. They made good use of the central fire pit and flaming torches to amplify the atmospheric architecture of the medieval hall in creating the fictional scenario.

"While Penshurst Place is often used as a filming location for histori-

cal dramas, because of its authentic architectural features, the venue and surrounding 2,500-acre estate can accommodate filmmakers of any genre.

"The house previously provided some of the creaking staircase sound effects for the Harry Potter series and it's great to once again be involved in a JK Rowling inspired production."

■ **The first part of The Silk-worm is aired on BBC1 at 9pm tonight (Sunday).**



STAR: Tom Burke grew up in Kent and is the son of David Burke - best known for his role as Dr Watson in the ITV Sherlock Holmes series in the 1980s.

WHO IS TOM BURKE?

NOW 36, Tom Burke was born in London but raised in Kent - the child of parents who both had creative talent in their veins.

His father David Burke was best known for playing Dr Watson in ITV's 1980s remake of Sherlock Holmes, while his mother, Anna Calder-Marshall, was the daughter of novelist and critic Arthur Calder-Marshall.

His godparents have a pedigree too.

His godfather was the actor Alan Rickman - who famously played Snape in the Harry Potter movies - while his godmother was the actress Bridge Turner who John Cleese originally intended to offer the role of Sybil Fawcett to in the comedy classic Fawlty Towers.

When young, Tom attended the Young Arden Theatre in Faversham before going on to the Royal Academy of Dramatic Art.

Prior to his role as Comorant

Strike, he was best known for his role as Athos in BBC drama The Musketeers, and also appeared in the epic War and Peace as Dolokhov.

Viewers will be aware that Strike - a veteran of the Afghan war - lost half a leg while serving on active duty.

Mr Burke, however, has both legs intact, and it is special effects which convince the viewer otherwise.

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How to choose home best for you

If the time has come to go into a home, just how do you go about finding the right place? We find out.

IT's a decision we will all have to face at some stage in our lives - if not for ourselves then for family or friends. So how do you choose the right care home?

Firstly, it is important you consider if such a facility is definitely the right choice.

Care homes can not only be expensive, but also be a major step for those moving there - bidding farewell to the family home and potentially making visiting more challenging for friends and relatives.

For example, many people may find they can adapt their home in order to suit their circumstances.

Have you considered getting some home support in to assist if doing some of the more simple things are becoming troublesome?

It may be worth getting a social care professional to look into the needs of the person involved and let them give you guidance.

But while moving into a care home can come with its challenges, there are plenty of benefits too. The burden of responsibility can be passed to professionals; there will be social interaction available on a daily basis and monitoring of health and physical



CHOICES: There are plenty of people and places who can help advise you.

needs becomes the home's job.

In short, it can be a weight off the mind of both the person going into the home and those who have assisted in their care up until that point.

So how do you find the right care home?

Age UK, the charity which works

for older people, believes it's all about the research.

A spokesman explains: "Think of it like buying a house; you need to get a feel for what's out there before making a decision. You should make list of local homes and visit a few to get an idea of what they're like.

"As a starting point, ask your friends and family - they may be able to point you towards a care home with a good reputation.

"CareHomeAdvisor is a website where you can search for care homes, and find out how they are rated by the Care Quality Commission, NHS

Choices, Your Care Rating, Food Standards Agency and the Health & Safety Executive. It can help you understand your various options in order to make an informed decision."

With so many independent reports available on care homes, the ability to make an informed judgement today is better than it has ever been in the past.

Adds Age UK: "It's worth taking time to find the right home. Try to visit the home to have a look round and talk to staff members. Some homes may invite you to spend the day there so you can get a feel of what it's like. You may be able to move on a trial basis before you decide whether to stay.

"Before you visit, make a list of all the questions you want to ask and all the things you want to look out for - it's easy to forget things and doing as much research as you can is important."

It is a big decision, but if it's the right one for your circumstances, it can make all the difference for everyone involved.

■ You can find out more by checking the Age UK website. Visit www.ageuk.org.uk.



Residents rate Breton Court care home one of the top 20 care homes in South East England

Breton Court in Tenterden, Kent has been chosen by residents and their families as one of the Top 20 care homes in South East England.

There are 3,119 homes in the South East of England, with the top 20 receiving an award from the leading reviews guide to care homes, carehome.co.uk.

The award is based on reviews of the care home written by their residents, plus their friends and relatives.

Davina Ludlow, Director of carehome.co.uk, said:

"We feel the best people to rate a care home are the residents and their families and friends. Their reviews reveal that many care homes are warm and happy places to live, where staff go that extra mile to ensure residents have a good quality of life and feel cared for.

"Breton Court proved that they provide a high standard of care and we'd like to congratulate them on being a Top 20 care home in South East England! It's a wonderful achievement to be recognised for being a highly recommended home by the very people you care for.

"Finding the right care home can be so hard. We hope that our awards will help to make people's care home search that little bit easier."

Kath Jenkins, manager of Breton Court said: I would like to say a big thank you to all my staff, for their hard work, commitment, professionalism and the loving care they give each and everyone of my residents. Care is not just about looking after the residents, but must include the family of that resident, the family should be able to sleep at night knowing that their loved one is being cared for appropriately. Each resident and their family become part of the Breton Court family.

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Will care cost you your property?

Get wise on just who has to foot the bill for care home costs and brace yourself for a significant cost

THE issue of paying for our care as we get older has long been a political hot potato - just ask Theresa May.

Her announcement just before the snap election about changes to the way care should be financed was seen by many as a key reason her comfortable expected victory crumbled into a limp over the line instead.

So just how, currently, is the cost of care worked out? And will you home be at risk?

Your ability to pay for care will be determined through a means test, but your home may not be included if you live with a partner, child, or a relative who is disabled or over the age of 60.

If your capital and income is above £23,250 you're likely to have to pay your care fees. If your capital and income is under £23,250 you might get some help from the local authority, but you may still need to pay some fees.

Explains Age UK: "If the local authority is arranging your care home, they'll do a means test to decide how much you should pay towards it, and they may take into account the value



CHOICES: There are lots of options for those moving into care homes. Be sure to get expert advice if necessary

of your home.

"A means test is a financial assessment where the local authority calculates how much you may need to pay towards the cost of your care.

"The means test will look at your capital and income, such as your savings, property, investments, pensions and any benefits you're eligible for, even if you're not claiming them.

"Certain types of benefits, such as the mobility component of the Disa-

bility Living Allowance or Personal Independence Payment, may not be counted.

"If your capital and income is above £23,250 you're likely to have to pay your care fees.

"If your capital and income is under £23,250 you might get some help from the local authority, but you may still need to pay some fees.

"Your property will be included in the means test at its present market

value, but less any mortgage or loan you may have on it and less 10 per cent of its value where there would be expenses to sell it.

"In some situations, your home won't be taken into account in the means test. There are a few circumstances where this applies such as if you need temporary or short-term care only.

"Your home also won't be counted if it's still occupied by your partner or

former partner, unless they are estranged from you, your estranged or divorced partner if they are also a lone parent, a relative who is aged 60 or over, a child of yours aged under 18, and a relative who is disabled."

There are, of course, other issues such as over joint ownership - check with the likes of Age UK for advice.

Many wonder if simply giving their home away to a child or relative would prevent it being counted. But it won't be so easy.

Explains Age UK: "Some people consider giving their property to someone else, such as a child or relative, so that it won't be counted in the means test.

"However, this may count as deliberate deprivation of assets, meaning you'd still have to pay the same level of care fees as if you still owned your home.

"It's important to find out more about how deprivation of assets would apply to you if this is something you are thinking about.

"The system of paying for care is complex and every case is unique. We suggest doing more reading before you take any action and contact your local Age UK for face-to-face help."



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CHANGES: Canterbury Cathedral welcomed just short of one million visitors last year alone.

Discover secrets of £24.7m cathedral regeneration plan

Chance to learn about the major work to protect and safeguard our historic site

IT is the county's foremost tourist attraction and the destination of pilgrimages from around the world each and every year.

But the ravages of time have come at a cost for Canterbury Cathedral.

Now a special open day later this month allows you to learn more about the £24.7 million journey of restoration and development at the holy site to ensure it remains as majestic in years to come as it has been for centuries before.

The event, on Wednesday, September 20, called Explore Your Cathedral, allows visitors to learn more about the hugely ambitious scheme which is described as the cathedral's largest restoration project for more than 100 years.

After years of planning and fundraising, it began on site in January. Over the next four years the ca-

thedral's West Towers, the leaking nave roof, and the cathedral main entrance, the Christ Church Gate, will be repaired and restored.

The work has been funded by the Heritage Lottery Fund to the tune of £13.8m and donations from private and charitable sources, of around £10.9m, through the Cathedral Trust and the Friends of Canterbury Cathedral.

The work will also include landscaping the cathedral precincts, at the west end to enable better access and enhance their appearance.

The Dean of Canterbury, the Very Revd Dr Robert Willis said: "It will be a wonderful opportunity to find out about the huge amount of work being undertaken at the cathedral and we hope as many as many people as possible can come and enjoy exploring and joining The Canterbury Journey."

Among the displays on show will be artists' impressions of the new welcome centre which is being planned and the free-to-enter viewing gallery, which will eventually become the new location for information, ticketing, interpretation and the cathedral's gift shop.

Entrance to that will be gained via the city's Buttermarket.

There will also be a brand new, purpose-built community space to support a programme of learning and community engagement activities.

Visitors will also learn about how the development work will open up the cathedral collections to a larger audience both online and off, with a host of new exhibition space.

There'll also be details of the Pilgrim Pass scheme, which will replace the existing resident pass scheme.

During the Explore Your Cathedral event, visitors will be able to

talk to those working on repairing and replacing stone and will be able to try out some masonry skills.

The artists and conservators of the cathedral's stained glass studio will be showcasing their work and the hugely knowledgeable visits team will be on hand to give tours. The gardeners will be demonstrating how the plant world is keeping up with technology and a visit to the organ loft will reveal how the musicians create such beautiful music. The virgers will show how their work behind the scenes ensures that worship and other events continue throughout the day and many other volunteers and departments who contribute to the life of the cathedral will be taking part.

Displays, information and refreshments will be available from 1pm and after 4pm the cathedral will be free to visit.

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ANGELA, attractive 66yr old free minded and spirited lady. Genuine with varied interests seeks gent 65+. Tel No: **0906 515 7112 Box No: 428485**

HEATHER, 54yrs, slim brunette with petite figure, loves keep fit. Seeks chap for nights out, fun times, must be honest and kind. ACA. Tel No: **0906 515 7112 Box No: 428491**

STEPHANIE, super sexy black mamma, 55yrs young with curves in all the right places. Call me and you won't be sorry, we can have the time of our lives. Text Only. Box: **4060220**

GENUINE lady 50yrs, independent, seeks genuine man, call to hear more about me. ACA/text answered. Tel No: **0906 515 7112 Box No: 428487**

CHLOE, very attractive girl, 32yrs, long hair and lovely teeth, I like to take care of myself. I want a man who will pamper me. In return you won't be disappointed as I am super sexy. Text Only. Box: **4070336**

VICTORIA, 46yrs, bubbly outgoing nurse, petite pretty brunette. WLTN N/S man, any age, must have GSOH and be kind. ACA. Or text. Tel No: **0906 515 7112 Box No: 428489**

CANDIDA, 52yrs, married lady, very well educated with good looks and dress sense. Unappreciated by older husband and hoping for some fun with discreet chap. Text Only. Box: **4010802**

ARE you a gent with GSOH 60-70 and looking for some fun then call me, Leah, I'm 57yrs, slim, attractive and looking for fun. ACA. Or text me. Tel No: **0906 515 7112 Box No: 428381**

KATIE 35yrs, slender well educated brunet seeks no strings must pleasure with gent 40+ Must be discreet, married or single. ACA. Tel: **0906 515 3002 Box 419673**

PIPPA, recently divorced lady, 46yrs, hoping to get back into dating and have some fun with a guy any age. Must be a laugh and willing to have a go at most things. Text Only. Box: **4101590**

TERESA, friendly lady with GSOH, curvy build and attractive looks, 50 something, seeking romantic male 45-55. Tel No: **0906 515 7112 Box No: 428383**

JANET, late 40's divorcee, own home and car looking to spice up my life with some fun. Discreet men only please, I'm not ready for a full on relationship, casual chats. Text Only. Box: **4189331**

ANNETTA, 40yrs old seeks caring older gent 55+, you must be nice and enjoy my company. ACA/text answered. Tel No: **0906 515 7112 Box No: 428483**

FELICITY, "my friends call me posh" I'm not really. Call me to see. I'm 58yrs, curvy, blonde extensions and very good for my age. ACA. Text Only. Box: **4043583**

LINDA, 48yrs, young looking blonde lady, slim and attractive. Hoping to meet new men friends, call and let's see what happens. Tel No: **0906 515 7112 Box No: 428377**

SOPHIA young 40yrs, married but bored, seeks discreet adult fun, any area, all calls answered. Tel: **0906 515 3018 Box: 413399**

JANE, 52yrs genuine blue eyed blonde lady WLTN romantic gent for potential relationship. ACA/text answered so please reply. Tel No: **0906 515 7112 Box No: 428379**

WANTED, submissive gent by attractive lady 51yrs, please call if you want to know more. Ata Tel No: **0906 515 7112 Box No: 428367**

ATTRACTIVE lady 61yrs young. Looking for friendship, maybe more with genuine gent. I'm feminine and curvy. Tel No: **0906 515 7112 Box No: 428157**

CAROLINE, 42yrs, well educated, sophisticated "some call me posh" married lady, looking for no strings midweek liaisons. Tel: **0906 515 3026 Box 427533**

ATTRACTIVE widow, loves life, 60s music, walking and fun. Hoping to meet a similar minded gent 60-80 for life's adventures. Tel No: **0906 515 7112 Box No: 428371**

CARMEL, open minded naughty lady seeks a broad minded strict man to unleash her wilder side. Age/looks unimportant but no time wasters please. Tel: **0906 515 3042 Box 426851**

EMILY, mature well educated lady, blonde and smart and broadminded seeks gent any age for no strings fun. ACA. Tel: **0906 515 3022 Box 421375**

SAMANTHA, 35yrs, attractive brunette with own business, seeks adventurous gent for casual relationship. Tel: **0906 515 3034 Box 425979**

JOY, mid 50s independent lady, brunette, loves dining out, seeking gent of any age. ACA. Tel No: **0906 515 7112 Box No: 428373**

HARRIET, 42yrs, blue eyed brunette with long lets and decent curves! Looking for a cheeky adventurous man for fun only. I live alone so can accommodate and can travel. Discretion assured. ACA. Give me a try. Tel: **0906 515 3030 Box 426205**

JANE, young 41, very broadminded seeks chap any age for discreet no strings fun, any age, no time wasters ACA. Tel No: **0906 515 3010 Box: 409715**

TAMIKA, mature black beauty, hourglass figure and open minded. Pis call if you are discreet, broad minded and nice. I can travel and accommodate. ACA. Tel: **0906 515 3006 Box 422365**

MARGARET, attractive blonde widow, living alone and hoping to find a nice gentleman soulmate. I have lots to offer so please call or text me. Tel No: **0906 515 7112 Box No: 428375**

CHRISTINE, 60 something lady, blue eyed blonde. Sincere, solvent and kind. Call me if you are interested in meeting up. Looks unimportant. Must be N/S. Tel No: **0906 515 7112 Box No: 428155**

NICOLA, 37yrs mixed race beauty, just moved to the area from London so a bit lonely. Looks unimportant must have GSOH and be kind. ACA/text answered Tel No: **0906 515 7112 Box No: 428369**

WANTED, submissive gent by attractive lady 51yrs, please call if you want to know more. Ata Tel No: **0906 515 7112 Box No: 428367**

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TAMIKA, mature black beauty, hourglass figure and open minded. Pis call if you are discreet, broad minded and nice. I can travel and accommodate. ACA. Tel: **0906 515 3006 Box 422365**

MARGARET, attractive blonde widow, living alone and hoping to find a nice gentleman soulmate. I have lots to offer so please call or text me. Tel No: **0906 515 7112 Box No: 428375**

SLIM attractive lady, 58yrs, feminine, kind, loves life. Call me or text me your number and let's meet up. Tel No: **0906 515 7112 Box No: 428143**

CAROL, attractive lady 55yrs young, slim, tanned, brunette. If you are genuine and looking to date then call or text me. Tel No: **0906 515 7112 Box No: 428153**

GENUINE caring lady 65yrs, varied interests, solvent, loves life, feminine, WLTN gent of any age for life's pleasures. Tel No: **0906 515 7112 Box No: 428151**

TAMARA, beautiful Indian lady seeks a Muslim gent 40+ Tel No: **0906 515 7112 Box No: 428147**

IF you are interested in meeting an attractive black lady then please call me. I'm Nikki, 57yrs, attractive, interested and kind. Tel No: **0906 515 7112 Box No: 428145**

RACHAEL, 50yrs, blue-eyed attractive lady, loves films, music and home life. WLTN gent 50-70yrs. ACA or text. Tel No: **0906 515 7112 Box No: 428149**

MALE, 58, slim build, 5ft9, brown eyes, hard working, enjoys fishing and socialising, looking for no stings attached fun. Tel No: **0906 515 7112 Box No: 427173**

HI ladies, looking for either NSA fun or LTR. I am single/work/live in own house. Text only. Mailbox: **4509325**

SINGLE dad of two, WLTN a single mum, for a proper relationship. Please get in contact I look forward to hearing from you. Tel No: **0906 515 7112 Box No: 427999**

WELL off man, wanting a young lady for spoiling. I am a sugar daddy looking for a sugar baby. Tel No: **0906 515 7112 Box No: 427441**

THANET male, retired, 5ft5, dark hair, smart, OHOC, likes walks, travel in motorhome, looking for a single, attractive lady with similar interests in Thanet. Tel No: **0906 515 7112 Box No: 427557**

TALL, lively old boy, into red wine, garlic and Radio 3, seeks tactile lady for company and jolly jaunts. Tel No: **0906 515 7112 Box No: 425021**

JAMES, 43, genuine, witty, positive, kind and caring, loves travel, socialising, eating out and lots of laughs with the right person, looking for genuine, friendly lady. Tel No: **0906 515 7112 Box No: 428019**

MALE 60, 6ft, blue eyes, broad shoulders, size 11 shoes, a real handfull! Seeks a fit mature busy woman for fun times. Text only replies. Mailbox: **6001755**

LOCAL 70 year old young male, now single, nice appearance and dresser, looking for fun and friendship with a lady, 55-70, possible holidays. Can travel. Please ring. Tel No: **0906 515 7112 Box No: 426897**

HARRY 50, ex soldier, 6ft, well built, seeking lady to wine and dine. Tel No: **0906 515 7112 Box No: 417015**

LIVELY mature gent, OHAC, near sea in Folkestone, into red wine, garlic and Radio 3, seeks lady companion/lover, 58-68 yr. Tel No: **0906 515 7112 Box No: 422621**

RETIRED, smart, 68 year old, 5ft5, I enjoy eating out, walking, holidays and golf, WLTN a slim, attractive lady, 60-68, for a loving, tender relationship, to enjoy these times with. Tel No: **0906 515 7112 Box No: 421853**

MALE divorced, 6ft, well built, seeking fun time girl for good times. Tel No: **0906 515 7112 Box No: 412717**

CARING, sociable male, 72, N/S, likes all types of music, walking, meals out, looking for a lady for friendship at first. Tel No: **0906 515 7112 Box No: 426865**

KENT man, retired engineer, solvent, enjoys holidays, meals out, good conversation, WLTN a slim lady, 60-70, with a GSOH, to share these times and hopefully become friends. Tel No: **0906 515 7112 Box No: 426887**

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JERRY, 66, brown hair, brown eyes, recently widowed, love to walk my dog, WLTN compatible lady for companionship and to see where things go. Tel No: **0906 515 7112 Box No: 426387**

50YR old divorced white male, passionate, strong, seeking caring lady for romantic, loving relationship. Tel No: **0906 515 7112 Box No: 418641**

GUY, 50, 6ft tall, calm and kind, good company, seeking lovely lady for good times and fun and loving. Tel No: **0906 515 7112 Box No: 425369**

BARRY, 50, 6ft 4ins, well built, divorced gent, looking to date calm and kind lovely lady. Tel No: **0906 515 7112 Box No: 421195**



LOCAL man, seeks lady for friendship possibly more, for romantic dates and good times together, hope to hear from you. Tel No: **0906 515 7112 Box No: 426195**

CARING sociable, GSOH, slim, attractive, married gent, 67, feels discarded and lonely, seeks likewise lady 60+ for trips out, dining etc. Text only. Mailbox: **5082918**

MALE, 55, looking for no strings attached friendship, with a lady 60-70, any status. Tel No: **0906 515 7112 Box No: 426133**

HANDSOME male, mid 40s, dark hair, hazel eyes, wishes to meet appropriate female for fun, friendship and perhaps more, please get in touch if interested. Tel No: **0906 515 7112 Box No: 422587**

MALCOLM, 60 something gent, own hair and teeth, GSOH, genuine and Kind WLTN sincere lady to wine and dine. Please call. Tel No: **0906 515 7112 Box No: 425335**

PROFESSIONAL gent, 44yrs, tall, attractive and genuine. Seeks genuine feminine lady for genuine romance. ACA. Tel No: **0906 515 7112 Box No: 425333**

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ROBBIE, 54, reasonably fit, bi-curious, I'm very inexperienced and would like to meet a CD or TV preferably but not essential for a bit of fun. Kent area. Tel No: **0906 515 7112 Box No: 421357**

MALE, 50s, likes to cross dress, looking for same for friendship and fun. Has to be discreet. Text only replies. Mailbox: **5657306**

GAY guy, medium build, likes outdoors, DIY, seeking slim, N/S guy for LTR. Tel No: **0906 515 7112 Box No: 403267**

EASY going guy, 68, likes walks, books, seeks N/S guy for LTR. Tel No: **0906 515 7112 Box No: 411413**

JOHN, young at heart 65, bi male, looking for casual fun with likeminded male. Maidstone Kent area. Must be discreet. Text only replies. Mailbox: **5657306**

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Community hop harvest all set to deliver bumper debut crop

By Chris Britcher

chris.britcher@archant.co.uk

A COMMUNITY hop farm project will see the fruits of its labour next week when it stages its first hop harvest.

The Deal Hop Farm, launched in the town in January, has grown to a patchwork farm of 130 sites in peoples' gardens, allotments, community gardens and spaces, including English Heritage's kitchen garden at Walmer Castle.

In a little over nine months the group has become one of the largest community growing projects in the country with nearly 200 people involved.

Steve Wakeford, of the Deal Hop Farm said "The project has gone brilliantly and thanks to our enthusiastic 'hoppers' we are well placed for an excellent first year's crop.

"The harvest is going to be great fun as well as quite challenging; as we are attempting to harvest on one day across all our sites. The idea is to pick our hops on Thursday 14th from 3pm and have then available for brewing very early on



TEAM: Impressive team effort has resulted in a remarkable harvest in Deal

Friday by our partners at the Ripple Steam Brewery.

"The Landmark Garden on Deal high street will be our main base for people to drop off their picked hops for weighing. We will also have hop pickers in the garden picking hops off vines where people are away. Volunteers hop pickers are welcome - long sleeves advised but cockney rhyming slang is not mandatory."

The project, initiated by green project Deal With It - Transition Deal aims to educate about hops and also brew some local beer.

Adds Steve: "As we don't have an oast house, just yet, our hops will not be dried but used as 'green hops' to give a massive flavour burst to our beer - named by members as 'Hopping MAD' (Made Around Deal) which will be available in the town from the end of

October."

Mark Brent, English Heritage's head gardener at Walmer Castle & Gardens said "From the beginning the objectives of Deal Hop Farm have been to learn, nurture and grow hops; with the prospect of some quality beer as an eventual outcome. What has been equally pleasurable to witness is its role in growing new friendships amongst the community too."

Star postpones UK tour

JASON Donovan has been forced to postpone a tour which would have seen him perform at Margate's Theatre Royal in November.

The show will now take place on March 21.



Halloween escape rooms

THE Seance is the latest room to be added to Chatham's EscapePlanLive line-up.

The escape room joins Murder at the Piere and The Witching Hour at its Sun Pier House venue and is hoped it will prove a big hit in the run-up to Halloween. In November, Christmas-themed the Naughty List opens.

Tenor stars at Orchard

TENOR Russell Watson will be performing at Dartford's Orchard Theatre on April 22 next year.

Tickets go on general sale on October 3 and forms part of his Canzoni d'Amore tour.



Forum's free festival fun

A FREE music festival takes place at the Tunbridge Wells Forum on October 8.

Organised by Tunbridge Wells Welcomes Refugees, the Festival of Hope runs from 1pm at the venue with a line up of local talent plus food, drink and stalls. Donations are encouraged and the event is open to all.



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Angel-ic panto planning

TONBRIDGE Lions Club is hosting its annual pantomime at the Angel Centre on December 9 and 10 - this year a production of Peter Pan.

It's staged by the Tonbridge Community Pantomime Group.



Art society's name change

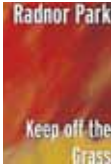
THE Tonbridge Decorative and Fine Arts Society has rebranded, and will now be known as the The Arts Society Tonbridge.

It follows a rebranding of the national association to simply The Arts Society and "clearly reflects what the organisation is and what it does".

Radnor Park album launch

AN album of original songs written and produced by Simon Tuck is set for release.

Keep off the Grass by Radnor Park was recorded at studios in Monks Horton, which is near Folkestone.



Fire station's fun open day

THAMES-Side fire station in Northfleet is throwing open its doors for a community safety open day on Saturday, September 23.

The event takes place at the fire station on Coldharbour Road and offers an action packed day of demonstrations and displays for all the family to enjoy between 11am and 4pm.

Museum delves into horror movie heyday

By Chris Britcher

chris.britcher@archant.co.uk

A MAJOR exhibition opens in Maidstone next month to celebrate the gold age of British horror movies.

Focusing on the period from the 1950s to 1970s, it will include a special look at legendary actors such as Christopher Lee and Peter Cushing who became household names with their roles in the hugely successful films.

Peter Cushing lived for many years in Whitstable and remains fondly remembered there.

Scream & Scream Again will explore some of the more blood-thirsty and gory films from this period with the exhibition also featuring a number of original international movie posters reflecting everything from the early gothic style to the infiltration of pop culture in the 1970s. A collection of rare original lobby cards and posters from around the world will also be on display alongside a selection of the museum's own weird and macabre objects.

These will include a variety of gruesome taxidermy, bats, rats

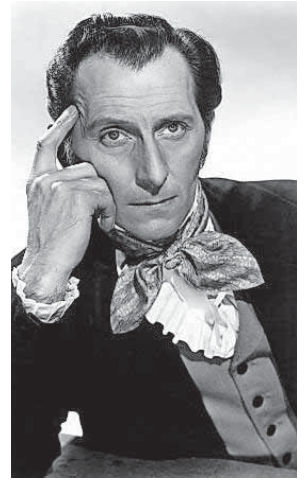


and insects, mummified remains (human and animal), eerie death masks and chilling dentistry equipment.

David Pickett, chairman of the heritage, culture and leisure committee at Maidstone council which runs the museum, said: "It's great to be able to offer such a diverse programme of events to our residents and visitors. I myself have great memories of this period of British horror films and I am looking forward to this very special exhibition."

While the exhibition is PG-rated, something that is strictly for over 18s are some museum events after dark. On October 26 just ahead of Halloween, there's Chiller where you can view some of the gruesome collections with the curators, followed by a tour of the building to uncover the dark urban legends and nerve-jangling ghost stories associated with the museum itself.

The exhibition runs from October 10 to December 2 - ticket prices vary.



LEGENDS: Peter Cushing, above, and Christopher Lee, left



VENUE: Maidstone Museum is all set for a spooky exhibition

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Presenter's battle with challenge of midlife crisis

As Jeremy Vine opens up about dark times, **Hannah Stephenson** catches up with the broadcaster

AMID-life crisis left popular broadcaster Jeremy Vine feeling burnt out and seeking the help of a string of professionals. "Like a lot of people, you get to a stage where you are working really hard. I was quite late to parenting - my first child was born when I was 39 - and unless you remind yourself what it's all for, you start asking what the point is.

"I had a little bit of a difficult journey," the 52-year-old presenter says of the crisis, which hit him in 2009 and lasted several years.

"I was a complete misery at home and everywhere for a while. I wasn't unpleasant, I just went quiet. I was in a state of some turmoil. Maybe I had a

mid-life crisis.

"What they say about people who are very ambitious in their teens and their 20s, as I was, is that you are burning so much fuel that you may reach a point where you're doing it all but wondering why you're doing it."

One psychologist suggested he might need time off work. He responded that it was her job to keep him working.

"As a result of that kind of idiocy, I wandered around for a long time as if wearing a gigantic blob of freshly spun candyfloss on my head. Nothing, not even hearing The Smiths sing Heaven Knows I'm Miserable Now, gave me pleasure."

He relays the crisis in his new book *What I Learnt, What My Listeners*



BOOK: Jeremy Vine's book is published by Weidenfeld & Nicolson

Say And Why We Should Take Notice, an autobiographical montage of his life and career, with shocking and hilarious anecdotes of his Radio 2 listeners, political and personal encounters, and memorable moments of his time on *Strictly Come Dancing* and other TV shows.

He reveals that he spoke to seven different professionals, including counsellors and a Harley Street psychologist, about his feelings.

"Some of the key things we've learned is that you have to be in the moment. Your diary may be packed with stuff, but unless you're enjoying where you are right now, you can't enjoy any of it. It will all just be a burden."

His wife Rachel was extremely supportive, he says.

"She said, 'Just enjoy going out and about and enjoy the sunshine. The kids [they have two daughters, Anna and Martha] are here and we all love you'. That's all I really needed to hear."

"The crucial thing I learned was to meditate and be mindful. When I'm at Radio 2 and am totally present in the show, listening to my listeners, I've learned to enjoy it for what it is. There's only one moment and that moment is now. Gradually I pulled clear and was joyful again."

One of the turning points came when he went to see folk singer Maddy Prior, former lead vocalist of Steel-eye Span.

"I was sitting in the rafters somewhere and I just felt joy. I thought, 'Oh my God, I'm back!'"

Big Boy Bloater on bill

RISING stars Big Boy Bloater and The Limits have been added to the bill of the Kent Blues Rock Festival in Gravesend on September 23.

It follows on from a well received set at Maidstone's Ramblin' Man Fair festival earlier this summer.

The festival takes place at the Red Lion. Tickets cost £16.50 or £22 and are on sale now.

Lady doesn't sing blues

A PERFORMANCE of Lady Sings the Blues, a tribute to Billie Holiday, scheduled for October 6 at Deal's Astor Theatre has been cancelled.

A spokesman for the venue said singer Val Wiseman is "indisposed" and so the show, which would have revisited the biggest hits of the legendary singer has been cancelled.

Ticket refunds are available now through the box office.

Rock n roll stars reborn

RELIVE the swagger of the Gallagher brothers in their prime when a top Oasis tribute band come to Ramsgate Music Hall at the end of the month.

Oasis recreate the magic of the Manchester band, and will run through a greatest hits set by the band who brought us such classics as Supersonic, Wonderwall and Don't Look Back in Anger.

Tickets cost £17.50 and are on sale now.

Train robbery hi-jinks

THE Great Train Robbery comes to the stage at the Godmersham & Crundale Village Hall, near Ashford, on October 14.

Based on the real-life daring robbery in 1963, it revolves around four women who evaded capture in a production which combines physical theatre, live music and clowning. It is being staged by the Applause Rural Touring company which brings professional theatre to rural venues.



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Feel magic of Madrid and taste its flavours

Raucous, at times even riotous, a tour of Madrid's tapas bars is every bit as worthwhile as seeing powerhouse art gallery Museo del Prado and the colonnaded Plaza Mayor. The city may not lay claim to its own dish, but you'll find restaurants, bars and delis serving the best regional food.

Get your fill of history: Botin

Dining in this rickety warren of a restaurant is sampling a slice of history. Founded in 1725, it's been named the world's oldest restaurant by *The Guinness Book of Records*. A dapper waiter slices Iberico ham in the reception, while the original wood-burning oven slow-roasts about 50 piglets a day. The tender pork dish is a classic and features on a three-course house menu (£45 including half a bottle of wine).

Duck your head to creep down creaking stairs to the cellar, where tunnels once connected to the Royal Palace, or reserve a corner table on the second floor, where Ernest Hemingway used to sit. **Snap up some foodie bargains: San**

Markets, tapas bars and record-breaking restaurants are all on the menu in Madrid, says Sarah Marshall

Miguel and Anton Martin markets

Renovated, the covered San Miguel market, just off Plaza Mayor, is filled with deli delights. Fried calamari rings in paper cones, fresh spider crabs on ice and fried churros are all beautifully displayed.

Prices reflect the venue's popularity, although a cheaper (more authentic) alternative is an easy 20-minute walk away. Set below a flamenco school, Anton Martin (on Calle de Santa Isabel) has stalls selling hams and vegetables Monday to Saturday.

Head to the second floor to find several small, colourful restaurants, including Cereal Lovers, a quirky homage to breakfast giants Kellogg's and Quaker (bowls from £4).

Lunch like a local: Prada a Tope

Specialising in preserved figs, peppers and meats from the Bierzo

region, this well-priced, wood-panelled restaurant is a favourite with Madrilenos. Turn up from 2pm if you want to join the noisy throng (although they do start serving from midday).

The generous, belly-stretching dishes are superb - particularly the salt-crusted, thin-sliced buttery steak with zoupieros figs and fries (£18).

Book a guided tapas crawl: around the city centre

An unspoken code governs the etiquette of tapas dining in Madrid. Menus (if any) will generally be Spanish chalk-scribbles on blackboards, and getting an order in requires deft elbow manoeuvres to secure a space at the bar.

Let someone else do all the hard work by booking a food tour. Yorkshire lass Jo Wivell moved to



Morning light at Plaza Mayor in Madrid. Inset, Cereal Lovers restaurant

Pictures: PA

Spain to follow her passion for flamenco, and runs Insider's Madrid (insidersmadrid.com). She'll show you all the best spots, including La Venencia, where grumpy staff serve sherry in a magical space stacked with wooden casks. A three-hour tour with all you can eat and drink in four stops is from £144 per person (minimum two people).

Where to stay: Only YOU Atocha

Cool, charming and breezily stylish, this young, energetic hotel perfectly sums up the spirit of

Madrid. The 205 rooms are compact but filled with everything the millennial traveller might need: multiple USB points, glossy magazines, large rain showers and, in suites, even high-tech pro hairdryers.

But the real star is the SEP7IMA rooftop bar, with views of the neighbouring Atocha railway station. Double rooms from £150, based on two people sharing. onlyyouhotels.com. Booking.com has two nights at Only YOU Atocha from £350pp B&B with flights from Gatwick.

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Grammars are failing the exam

WE were told that grammar schools were the solution to sclerotic social mobility.

More grammar schools meant bright young working class kids would get on and take their place at the top table of life.

The PM advocated a policy of increasing the number of grammar schools within the Conservative manifesto in the 2017 election. This was in spite of a noticeable reluctance to accept the policy on her own side and almost total opposition from the opposition.

Failure to win an overall majority by the government meant the policy faded away.

Fast forward to the start of the academic year and we have St Olave's grammar apparently selecting students into sheep and goats for not meeting a certain level of academic performance. This was only stopped because a few well funded parents threatened litigation and the school backed down, but for how long?

The questions we have to ask after this debacle are:

Is education just about producing a few winners and how does this boost social mobility?

Just what is the point of grammar school education if, after all the effort to get a place, the strategem turns to dust, when the school dumps your offspring part way through?

How are we ever going to inculcate a love of life long learning in the face of ever increasing technological change when schools adopt these dodgy tactics in order to game the school league tables?

George Nokes,
Dover

Animal exports still going strong

MANY people believe that the live animal exports trade finished long ago. Sadly, they are mistaken.

Over the last three weeks, 24 lorries containing approximately 12,000 live sheep have been transported from places as far away as Cumbria to Ramsgate Port.

I was one of the 100 or so demonstrators at Ramsgate. In each lorry the sheep were so crammed together that they could not reach the "drinkers" for water.

It was ascertained the temperature inside the lorries was around 26 degrees. Coupled with the thickness of their woolly coats, one can only imagine the extreme discomfort these poor creatures were forced to endure. In addition, the smell emanating from these lorries was horrendous.

Bound for Calais, Germany and all

LETTER OF THE WEEK



The facts comfortably Trump the falsehoods

I'M sorry I can't let Colin Bullen's partisan letter [KoS, last week] go by without apprising him of a few unpalatable truths about Donald Trump and Barack Obama.

Let's start with "a majority of the American people supported and still support Trump". A majority of the American people (65+ million compared to 62+m) came out for Mrs Clinton.

As to still being supported, Mr Trump's approval ratings have slumped spectacularly to 36 per cent saying they approve compared to 58 per cent disapproving of him according to a Gallup poll on September 3.

With regard to President Obama being all talk and no action, here's a little actions list for Mr Bullen: Affordable care act, American recovery and reinvestment act - to stimulate the economy after the depression of 2008 - ended the war in Iraq, liquidated Osama bin Laden, reversed Bush torture policies, and boosted car fuel

economy standards.

As a kindness to Mr Bullen I'll stop the list there, but he, or perhaps others with more open minds, can simply Google 'Obama achievements'. Google the same for Trump and see what happens.

In response to Mr Bullen's obvious appetite for Trump's macho arm-wrestling with Kim Jong-Un, I leave the last very prescient word to Jackie Kennedy, widow of John F Kennedy, who along with his ideological adversary, the Soviet leader Krushchev, stepped back from the brink of nuclear war over Cuba in the early 60s: "The danger which troubled my husband was that war might be started not so much by the big men as by the little ones. While big men know the needs for self-control and restraint, little men are sometimes moved more by fear and pride. If only in the future the big men can continue to make the little ones sit down and talk, before they start to fight".

Dennis Clegg
Maidstone

over Europe, journeying for up to 23 hours or more, as well as the four-and-a-half hour Channel crossing, the sheep will have been given no rest, food or water, except that which we protesters attempted to administer.

So having endured such an horrendous journey, these poor sheep will have been brutally slaughtered, without pre-stunning in the killing Festival of Eid, which ran from last Friday to Sunday.

In EU law, these gentle, sentient beings are considered mere agricultural produce. Thanet council was heavily penalised by the EU for

suspending the free movement of these "goods" for five weeks some years back.

However, the lorries are fewer than last year and even with more expected in the coming months, the trade is getting smaller. In the 1990s, huge numbers of farm animals were exported for slaughter abroad daily from places such as Shoreham, Dover and Coventry. This is mostly down to people power and protests will not cease until this vile trade is stopped altogether.

Hopefully, after Brexit, this country will no longer be compelled to adhere to autocratic EU law, and

will have the power to impose an outright ban ensuring that live exports will not be leaving our shores ever again.

Vivien Clifford,
Deal

It's not as bad as the old days is it?

REGARDING the letters from Terry Hudson and Stuart Jeffrey.

Standing waiting for buses in my teens in the high streets of Gillingham and Chatham in the 1950s breathing in the fumes from traffic then able to travel along said high streets, I have to wonder how, now I am 82 years of age, I am still here, quite fit, how I survived?

Those days chimneys poured out smoke from home fires as well. Compared to those times we live in a very clean environment.

Granted there were fewer cars and lorries about then but we are where we are and none can deny we are all generally fitter and living longer than our predecessors.

So what is going on? My guess is that there are people who were not around in my era and cannot compare the good and the bad.

Peter Robinson,
Newington

Cash in on fuel opportunities

ONE of your readers was commenting about the self-righteousness of non-diesel motorists [KoS, letters, last week]. He also asked rightly about fuel being used for other purposes.

I do not understand why people want to pay fuel bills however the fuels are generated whether fossil fuel, nuclear or renewable energy.

The fuel bills for our typical three-storey four-bedroom town house last year were minus £500 and this year with other environmental improvements such as an additional solar panel they should be minus £1,000. I was listening to a so-called energy expert recently who stated that the sun doesn't always shine and that the wind doesn't always blow so that solar panels and wind turbines are not necessarily always helpful.

However, if readers go to Wales or Scotland they will find in both countries that in the off-peak hours water is pumped uphill and the effect is that in the peak, electricity is generated from this water power.

The rates of return as well from heat exchangers as well as the other methods mentioned are substantially above any other safe investments.

David Spurling,
Sittingbourne

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- 6) Have an easily understood division between news, comment and advertising.
- 7) Seek to celebrate as well as constructively criticise.
- 8) Highlight topical issues of concern to

people living in the county.

9) Spotlight individual cases which raise broader concerns.

10) Champion causes that it feels are important to the well-being of the county and its people.

We hope you enjoy Kent on Sunday.

kent-life.co.uk kentnews.co.uk



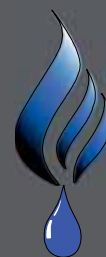
Goodnestone Gardens

by **Brian Summers of Faversham**

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Pontins Pakefield, Suffolk Coast
Friday 17 Nov, 2017 • Quote: CP11-2-KOS

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20 April, 2018 • Quote: LK4-KOS

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SPACIOUS: Kia's Stinger five-door fastback has been designed and engineered as a gran turismo. Pictures: Kia



Striking Stinger fastback brings concept to reality

KIA moves into the sports saloon market with its striking new Stinger fastback going on sale later this year.

Based on the 2011 Kia GT Concept, it will be Kia's highest-performance production vehicle ever and channels the spirit of historic grand tourers – powerful, elegant vehicles capable of moving their owners in style, at speed.

The Stinger has been designed and engineered as a gran turismo with a head-turning aesthetic, room to accommodate five occupants and their luggage, a stable, unruffled ride, and nimble handling with engaging, rear-biased power delivery.

For the European market, it will be offered with three turbo charged engines – 255PS 2.0-litre, four-cylinder and 370PS 3.3-litre V6 petrol and 200PS 2.2-litre, four-cylinder diesel.

The diesel, from the seven-seat Sorento sport utility vehicle, produces 440 Newton metres of torque from 1,750 to 2,750rpm for 0-62mph in 8.5 seconds and a top speed of 140mph.

The 2.0-litre and 3.3-litre petrol engines produce 353 Nm of torque from 1,400 to 4,000rpm and 510Nm from 1,300 to 4,500rpm respectively for strong, flexible performance.

The 3.3-litre can reach 62mph from rest in 5.1 seconds, making it the fastest-accelerating pro-



duction Kia ever, and 168mph.

All three engines will be mated to an eight-speed automatic transmission and the Stinger will be the first Kia to be offered with rear and four-wheel drive.

The handling dynamics have been honed at the world-famous Nürburgring Nordschleife cir-

cuit in Germany, with electronically-adjustable dampers allowing a softer ride in comfort mode and improved agility in sport or sport plus. At 4,830mm long and 1,870mm wide, the Stinger boasts a spacious cabin and a boot big enough for full-size luggage or golf bags.

UK pricing has not yet been announced.



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C-HR Icon 5 door Coupe FWD 1.2T VVT-i Manual. Official Fuel Consumption Figures in mpg (l/100km): Urban 38.1 (7.4), Extra Urban 55.4 (5.1), Combined 47.8 (5.9). CO₂ Emissions 135g/km. All mpg and CO₂ figures quoted are sourced from official EU regulated laboratory test results. These are provided to allow comparisons between vehicles and may not reflect your actual driving experience.

*Model shown is C-HR Icon 5 door Coupe FWD 1.2 VVT-i Manual at £695 Advance Payment. Subject to availability. Available as part of the Motability Contract Hire Scheme. Please note that a total of 60,000 miles over three years are allowed on the Motability Contract Hire Scheme. Offer valid between 1st July and 30th September 2017.

Lexus LC 500h stunning luxury cruiser

Lexus has entered the large luxury coupe segment with a car that plays by its own rules. Our motors expert Darren Cassey finds out what makes it so special

IT'S difficult to pinpoint a direct rival for the new flagship Lexus LC large luxury coupe.

Lexus considers the likes of the Porsche 911 and BMW 6 Series attract similar customers, but chief engineer Koji Sato said "we focused on emotional value rather than specs" so direct comparisons can be tricky... to the LC's benefit.

Most of the LC's major talking points are totally new. The chassis, which will also underpin the LS luxury saloon, makes its debut while the suspension took six months to perfect.

The big story is multi-stage hybrid transmission, a mix of traditional automatic technology and continuously-variable transmission (CVT) commonly used in hybrids, for the flexibility of an eco-friendly CVT and performance-orientated capabilities of a conventional auto in one 10-speed transmission.

There's a 3.5-litre petrol V6 with an electric motor, which together provide 472bhp and a claimed 43.5mpg so expect a real-world mid-30s. A 471bhp 5.0-litre V8 uses much more fuel but makes a fantastic noise and is a delight to rev.

The LC 500h is a sublime cruiser



with exceptionally comfortable seats and a ride that makes rough roads feel silky smooth.

What's equally impressive is its handling. For a car around two tonnes to be so fleet-footed is marvellous, settling into direction

changes with admirable aplomb. The LC 500's styling is stunning. When Lexus revealed the LF-LC concept in 2012 no one suspected the production version would look so good.

There are extravagant details, from the daytime running lights that



could have been carved by Zorro, to the muscular rear arches that dominate the view from your wing mirrors.

Luxury, Sport and Sport+ trims are priced the same whether V8 or hybrid.

Lexus LC 500h

Price: **from £80,595**
 Engine tested: **3.5-litre V6 petrol and electric motor giving combined 354bhp**
 Performance: **0-62mph: 4.7 seconds; top speed 155mph**
 MPG: **43.5 combined**
 CO2 emissions: **148g/km**

Luxury, from £76,595, gets a suite of safety technologies as standard, leather upholstery and a 10.25in display with navigation. The £5,000 Sport package adds 21in alloy wheels, Alcantara upholstery and carbon-fibre roof. Sport+, from £85,895, gets upgraded handling kit and rear-steer technology for sharper cornering.

It's easy to fall quickly in love with the Lexus LC 500h. As a luxury GT car, it's exceptional.

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C-HR Icon 5 door Coupe FWD 1.2T VVT-i Manual. Official Fuel Consumption Figures in mpg (l/100km): Urban 38.1 (7.4), Extra Urban 55.4 (5.1), Combined 47.8 (5.9). CO2 Emissions 135g/km. All mpg and CO2 figures quoted are sourced from official EU regulated laboratory test results. These are provided to allow comparisons between vehicles and may not reflect your actual driving experience.

*Model shown is C-HR Icon 5 door Coupe FWD 1.2 VVT-i Manual at £695 Advance Payment. Subject to availability. Available as part of the Motability Contract Hire Scheme. Please note that a total of 60,000 miles over three years are allowed on the Motability Contract Hire Scheme. Offer valid between 1st July and 30th September 2017.

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63	FORD FIESTA 1.0 ZETEC, 1 owner from new, silver, 19k, 5dr, alloys, history, like new.....	£7,995
63	FORD FIESTA 1.2 ZETEC, 5 Dr, Yellow, 49k, Alloys, A/C, CD, History Excellent.....	£6,795
13	VAUXHALL CORSA 1.2, exclusive ecoflex, 5dr, red, 36k, alloys, £30 tax, AA report, a/c, excellent.....	£5,495
62	HYUNDAI i30 COMFORT 1.4 (NEW), met blue, 62k, history, alloys, a/c, 5 door, low tax/ins.....	£6,295
62	RENAULT TWINGO 1.2 (NEW), metallic blue, a/c alloys, electric windows, service history, excellent low Insurance.....	£3,795
11	NISSAN QASHQAI 1.6 VISIA, Red, 69k, history, alloys, A/C, excellent.....	£6,795
11	HYUNDAI i30 1.4 CLASSIC, 5dr, red, 49k, air con, history.....	£4,795
11	NISSAN JUKE 1.6, Agenta, Grey, 56k, History, a/c, Alloys, nice looker.....	£7,195
60	NISSAN JUKE 1.6 SPORT BIG D, silver, sat, nav alloy, A/C, 49k, hist.....	£6,995
60	SUZUKI ALTO, white, 59k, £20 tax, low insurance, a/c, history, 2 x key, lovely car.....	£3,195
60	HYUNDAI i20, black, 70k, history, a/c, very clean.....	£3,495
10	PEUGEOT 207, 1.4, verve, 5dr, red, 49k, a/c, nice car.....	£3,495
10	MERCEDES CLC 160 COUPE, met white, 42k only, history, alloys.....	£6,995
59	KIA PICANTO 1.1, black, 5dr, 38k.....	£3,315
09	MINI CLUBMAN ESTATE, Red, 80k, lady owner, history.....	£3,995
09	HYUNDAI i10 1.2 STYLE, silver, 27k only, history, a/c, alloys, sunroof.....	ONLY £3,795
09	FORD FIESTA 1.4 ZETEC, Electric met blue, 59k, alloys, a/c, history.....	£4,795
09	SUZUKI ALTO SZ3 5DR, met Jade, 49k, a/c, £20 Tax, 65+ mpg.....	£2,995
09	CHEVROLET AVEO 1.4 LT, grey, 5dr, 52k, history, a/c, alloys.....	£2,495
09	HONDA JAZZ 1.4 EXEC, Silver, 52k, 5dr, hatch, Parktronic, Alloys, A/C.....	£5,495
58	FORD FIESTA 1.4 ZETEC, Silver, 5dr, alloys, etc.....	£3,495
08	HONDA CIVIC 2.0 TYPE R, GT, Red, 39k, History, Alloys, air con, Excellent.....	£7,195
08	MITSUBISHI COLT CONVERTIBLE, silver, 1 owner, history, 70k, alloys, a/c.....	£2,995
56	HYUNDAI AMICA 1.1 CDX, red, 52k, 5dr, history.....	£1,795

AUTOMATIC

14	HYUNDAI IX 35 BLACK 4X4 AUTO DIESEL PREMIUM, black leather, 40k, history, 2 x sunroofs, alloys, 4 x headrests, heated seats, Sat Nav.....	£13,995
14	SUZUKI ALTO AUTOMATIC, red, 5dr, air-con, alloys, 41k, history, 1 owner, low ins/tax.....	£5,195
63	MERCEDES E220 CDI AMG (NEW) AUTOMATIC, 1 owner, 30k, met silver, history, leather/suede, heated seats, sat nav, Outstanding.....	£16,995
62	MAZDA TS2 1.5 AUTOMATIC, 19k only, met blue, 5dr, a/c, excellent.....	£6,995
12	NISSAN NOTE, (new) auto, met blue, 27k history, h/leather, sat nav, 2 keys, outstanding.....	£7,495
12	HYUNDAI i10 AUTOMATIC, 5dr, 44k, history, red, alloys, a/c, history.....	£5,995
10	HYUNDAI i20 AUTOMATIC, met grey, 24k only, alloys, a/c, 5dr, excellent.....	ONLY £5,495
59	MERCEDES CLC 180, black, 62k, alloys, leather, a/c, history, excellent.....	£6,495
59	VW TIGUAN 2.0 TDI TURBO DIESEL AUTOMATIC, black, 69k, history, alloys, a/c etc.....	£8,995
59	HYUNDAI i30 AUTOMATIC DIESEL, 52k, met black, a/c, alloys.....	£4,795
59	NISSAN NOTE 1.6 AUTOMATIC, met blue, 55k, history, a/c, super driver.....	£4,495
59	NISSAN PIXO 1.0 N-TEC AUTOMATIC, 18k only, red, a/c, 5dr, low tax/ins.....	£4,195
09	NISSAN NOTE 1.6 TECHNA AUTOMATIC, silver, 67k, excellent condition.....	£4,795
09	HYUNDAI i20 AUTOMATIC, Blue, 5dr, 32k only, Hist, Alloys, A/C, nice car.....	£4,495
04	VAUXHALL ASTRA, (NEW) AUTO, Met Blue, 40k, A/C, Excellent.....	£1,795

DIESELS

15	KIA RIO DIESEL, 5dr, Lady Owner, 16k only, free tax, 70/80 mpg, reverse camera, cruise, A/C, Alloys.....	£9,495
14	HYUNDAI IX 35 BLACK 4X4 AUTOMATIC DIESEL PREMIUM, black leather, 40k, history, 2 x sunroofs, alloys, 4 x headrests.....	£13,995
14	MERCEDES A180 SPORT, met black, 1 owner, 28k, sat nav, alloys, a/c, outstanding.....	£13,995
63	HYUNDAI i20 TD DIESEL, red, 5dr, 33k, history, alloys, a/c.....	£5,295
63	MERCEDES E220 CDI AMG (NEW) AUTOMATIC, 1 owner, 30k, met silver, history, leather/suede, heated seats, sat nav, outstanding.....	£16,995
63	NISSAN JUKE 1.5 DCI TEKNA, White, 32k, Lthr, Sat, Cruise, Mint.....	£9,495
13	MERCEDES C220 SPORT, met grey, 67k, half leather, history, lovely.....	£12,995
13	MERCEDES E250 CONVERTIBLE, silver, 23k, 1 owner, history, leather.....	£19,495
62	MERCEDES C250 SPORT, silver, 48k, history, leather, alloys, sat, mats, outstanding.....	£12,995
62	FORD KUGA DIESEL, black, 40k, alloys, lovely car, cruise, half leather, history.....	£11,295
62	FORD FOCUS 1.6 TDCI ZETEC, silver, 52k, history, AA route 70+ mpg, £20 Tax.....	£6,995
12	PEUGEOT 308CC CONVERTIBLE, met silver, 36k only, history, alloys, climate, excellent.....	£7,995
12	PEUGEOT 3008 1.6 HDI ACTIVE, met grey, 53k, history, alloys, a/c.....	£5,495
12	PEUGEOT 208 1.4 ACTIVE 3DR, electric met blue, 59k, history, alloys, A/C, Low tax 70+mpg.....	ONLY £4,995
61	FORD FOCUS 1.6TDCI ZETEC, black, 5dr, 65k, history, alloys, £30 tax, 60+ mpg, nice car.....	£5,995
61	KIA SOUL 1.6 ECHO, black, 70k, leather, alloys, history, nice car.....	£5,495
61	VW T30 TRANSPORTER 4X4, 104k, Hist, 4 motion, 2 x Key, S/Hist, Grey Outstanding.....	£11,995
11	AUDI A5 2.0 TDI BLACK EDITION, white, 148k, black leather, sat, sport seats, history, excellent.....	£9,495
11	RENAULT MEGANE (NEW) 1.9 TDI CONVERTIBLE, red, alloys, a/c, history, excellent.....	£5,995
60	PEUGEOT PARTNER 1.6, met grey, 61k, history, multi-purpose vehicle only.....	£5,795
10	MERCEDES C220 SPORT, silver, 56k, alloys, a/c, auto excellent.....	£10,995
59	KIA CEED 1.6 CRDI, white, 5dr, 48k, alloys, 6spd, history.....	£4,495
59	FORD FIESTA 1.6 TDCI ECO, met blue, 41k, history, 5dr, £30 tax.....	£4,995
59	VW TIGUAN 2.0 TDI TURBO DIESEL AUTOMATIC, black, 69k, history, alloys, a/c etc.....	£8,495
59	HYUNDAI i30 AUTOMATIC DIESEL, 52k, met black, a/c, alloys.....	£4,495
58	MERCEDES C220 CDI ELEGANCE AUTOMATIC, 57k, grey, alloys, leather.....	£11,995
08	MINI COOPER DIESEL, white, 117k, alloys, a/c, history.....	£3,995
08	PEUGEOT 207CC CONVERTIBLE, black, 60k, alloys, s/c, history, nice car.....	£3,495
08	FORD FOCUS 1.6 TDCI, silver, 108k, 5dr, history, 2 x keys, lovely condition.....	£2,995

CONVERTIBLES

13	MERCEDES E250 CONVERTIBLE, silver, 23k, 1 owner, history, leather.....	£19,495
12	PEUGEOT 308CC CONVERTIBLE, met silver, 36k only, history, alloys, climate, excellent.....	£8,495
11	RENAULT MEGANE (NEW) 1.9 TDI CONVERTIBLE, red, alloys, a/c, history excellent.....	£5,995
08	MITSUBISHI COLT CONVERTIBLE, silver, 1 owner history, 70k, alloys, a/c.....	£2,795

PX

11	FORD FIESTA 1.6 TDI 5DR TITANIUM, silver, 120k, nice car.....	£2,995
59	NISSAN MICRA 1.2, red, 138k.....	£1,295
07	HONDA ACCORD (NEW) DIESEL, met grey, alloys, a/c, suede/leather.....	£2,795
06	MAZDA 2 AUTOMATIC, silver, 5dr, clean, 77k, 2 x key.....	£1,795
05	KIA PICANTO AUTOMATIC, Red, 5dr, 40k, history.....	£1,995
04	SUZUKI ALTO, Red, 60k, £30 Tax, economical, full MoT, 5dr.....	£795
W	MX-5 CONVERTIBLE, silver, 119k, clean.....	£1,295

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Thamesview SCHOOL
with Business and Enterprise status
Headteacher: Mr Henry Hughes MA

ALTERNATIVE PROVISION MANAGER
37 hours per week for 39 weeks per year (term time only)
Thamesview Support Staff Pay Scale KR7 Points 21 - 25
£21,510.00 – £24,472.00 per annum
Pro rata to £18,510.89 - £20,650.33 pa

We are seeking to appoint an experienced and dedicated member of support staff to work alongside the Assistant Headteacher with responsibilities for behaviour to ensure the efficient and successful management of the Alternative Provision Unit (Refocus Centre). To manage students on a daily basis, promote good behaviour and deliver the curriculum to a small group of students.

The ideal applicant will...

- Demonstrate a personal drive to improve the life chances of students and encourage high standards of behavior;
- Be able to manage time effectively and ensure others do the same in your subject area in order to meet deadlines;
- Give positive and constructive feedback and encouragement;
- Be willing to take on board new initiatives;
- Have an inquiring mind seeking creative solutions to issues;
- Be able to analyse data, and take action on the findings;
- Ensure accountability
- Have the ability to prioritise and make reasoned decisions
- Relate well to staff and students, have strong interpersonal skills and demonstrate a high level of emotional intelligence to communicate effectively;
- Be prepared to work flexibly and undertake overtime as and when required.

The ability to converse at ease with members of the public and provide advice in accurate spoken English is essential for the post.

The School received a very positive Ofsted Report in 2014 and was rated 'good' in every category. Thamesview is a new school build that benefits from innovative learning environments and state of the art ICT equipment. We are committed to providing high quality learning experiences for our students and to supporting our staff through excellent CPD opportunities.

Further details and an application form can be obtained from our HR Manager on 01474 566552 ext 1120 or email k.mcgowan@thamesview.kent.sch.uk.

Closing Date: 16th September 2017 at 9.00 am
Interviews: Week Commencing 25th September 2017

CVs without an application form will not be accepted.

Appointment to this post is subject to a criminal background check via the Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS).

Thamesview School operates a no smoking policy.

Thamesview SCHOOL
with Business and Enterprise status
Headteacher: Mr Henry Hughes MA

HR SUPPORT (MATERNITY COVER)
22.5 hours per week (with the potential for some additional hours as and when required)
39 weeks per year (term time only)
Thamesview Support Staff Pay Scale KR6 Points 17 - 20
£19,609.00 – £21,509.00 per annum
Pro rata to £10,062.22 - £11,037.19 pa

Cover is required to proactively support the Headteacher's PA and all aspects of the school's personnel requirement, ensuring the smooth day to day running of the HR function. They will assist the Headteacher's PA in all aspects of employment, ensuring the school is legally compliant and all personnel records are kept up to date, including;

The ideal applicant should have;

- A confident and professional attitude.
- Excellent interpersonal skills.
- Experience of dealing with issues of a highly confidential and sensitive nature, and awareness of data protection.
- A high level of IT literacy with good experience of Microsoft packages and SIMS.net database.
- A working knowledge of issues relating to employment law and Kent School Personnel would be beneficial.

The ability to converse at ease with members of the public and provide advice in accurate spoken English is essential for the post.

The School received a very positive Ofsted Report in 2014 and was rated 'good' in every category. Thamesview is a new school build that benefits from innovative learning environments and state of the art ICT equipment. We are committed to providing high quality learning experiences for our students and to supporting our staff through excellent CPD opportunities.

Further details and an application form can be obtained from our HR Manager on 01474 566552 ext 1120 or email k.mcgowan@thamesview.kent.sch.uk.

Closing Date: 18th September 2017 at 9.00 am
Interviews: Week Commencing 25th September 2017

CVs without an application form will not be accepted.

Appointment to this post is subject to a criminal background check via the Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS).

Thamesview School operates a no smoking policy.

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Abbey Court School
"We grow people"

Abbey Court School provides a stimulating, challenging and safe learning environment where pupils and staff efforts, work and achievement are celebrated.

We are currently looking for a
Teacher for pupils with severe and profound learning difficulties to commence ASAP (or on qualifying)
MPS/UPS + SEN + TLR 2C £2,640
(TLR with previous experience)

Abbey Court School caters for pupils aged 3-19 with Severe Learning Difficulties, and is currently located in pleasant surroundings on 2 Strood sites; Cliffe Road (Nursery & Primary) and Rede Court Road (Secondary & Further Education). The Primary provision is located in a new purpose built facility.

- ** judged 'outstanding' in last 2 Ofsted inspections
- ** IT and curriculum resources of enviable proportions
- ** Comprehensive induction and training provided
- ** would suit NQT's or those wishing to gain further experience of SEN

Telephone enquiries and informal visits to the school are welcomed.

Due to the conditions and complex needs of the pupils at Abbey Court School, continuity and consistency of support is paramount and therefore candidates for all positions will need to commit to the full working hours of the post.

This school is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. Any offer of appointment for post is subject to a satisfactory Criminal Records Bureau Disclosure.

Closing Date: 19 September 2017

For further details and a job description, please contact Mrs Linda Taylor, Abbey Court School, Rede Court Road, Strood, Kent, ME2 3SP (01634 338236), stating the position for which you are applying.

Spencer Private Hospitals are two hospitals situated in East Kent. The larger of the two hospitals is a 22 bed independent hospital situated at the QEOM Hospital in Margate, whilst the second hospital is a 4 bed independent hospital based at the William Harvey Hospital in Ashford. Both hospitals have a reputation for providing excellent medical and surgical facilities supported by Specialist Consultants, Specialist Nurses and Physiotherapists. We have state of the art diagnostic equipment and exceptionally high standards of nursing care.

The continuing growth of our business has resulted in a vacancy for the following staff:

Staff Nurse Ward (Margate)

Part Time – 30 hours per week
Closing Date – TBC

Salary – £13.75 per hour
Interview Date – TBC

Qualifications and Experience

- Registered Nurse 1st level
- Evidence of continual professional development
- Experience in a surgical/medical environment with a knowledge and understanding of surgical/medical procedures
- Demonstrates a patient focus approach
- Excellent communication and interpersonal skills
- Ability to work independently and as part of a multi-disciplinary team
- Committed to providing a quality clinical service

Housekeeper (Margate)

Part Time – 20 or 30 hours per week, over 7 day working rota

Salary – £7.69 per hour

Closing Date – TBC

Interview Date – TBC

Qualifications and Experience

- Previous housekeeping experience (preferably within a clinical environment)
- Previous experience in a customer facing role
- Good working knowledge of Word/Excel/Outlook
- Mathematics and English (GCSE or equivalent) Grade C or above
- Ability to recognize and report situations affecting patient care
- Able to work independently and as part of a team
- Outstanding communication and motivational skills
- Committed to providing excellence in service

To discuss either of these opportunities, or to arrange an informal visit, please contact: Daisy Bannister, HR Assistant 01304 222 690

Previous applicants need not apply

For job descriptions and application forms please visit our website:

www.spencerprivatehospitals.com/careers

Alternatively, please contact Carina Pieries, HR Assistant

Telephone: 01304 222687 E-mail: recruitment@spencerhospitals.com

Spencer Private Hospitals is an equal opportunity employer.
This position is subject to a Disclosure and Barring check.

Spencer
PRIVATE HOSPITALS



**Town and Country Planning (Development Management Procedure)
(England) Order 2015
NOTICE UNDER ARTICLE 14 OF APPLICATION FOR
PLANNING PERMISSION**

Proposed development at: Land at Princes Parade, Princes Parade, Hythe, Kent, CT21 6AQ
Take notice that application is being made by: Shepway District Council Strategic Development Projects

For planning permission to: "Outline planning permission for comprehensive mixed use development comprising a 2,961sqm leisure centre (Use Class D2), up to 150 residential dwellings (Use Class C3), up to 1,270sqm of commercial uses including hotel use (Use Class C1), retail uses (Use Class A1) and / or restaurant/café uses (Use Class A3); hard and soft landscaped open spaces, including children's play facilities; surface parking for vehicles and bicycles; alterations to existing vehicular and pedestrian access and highway layout within and around the site; site levelling and groundworks; and all necessary supporting infrastructure and services. Within the outline application full details are submitted for the means of access, layout, scale, appearance and landscaping for the leisure centre and its associated parking, open spaces and children's play facility."

Local Planning Authority to whom the application is being submitted: Shepway District Council Civic Centre, Castle Hill Avenue, Folkestone, Kent CT20 2QY. Any owner of the land or tenant who wishes to make representations about this application, should write to the council within 21 days of the date of this notice.

Signatory: Mr Matt Shillito



Date: 23/08/2017

Statement of owners' rights: The grant of planning permission does not affect owners' rights to retain or dispose of their property, unless there is some provision to the contrary in an agreement or lease.

Statement of agricultural tenants' rights: The grant of planning permission for non-agricultural development may affect agricultural tenants' security of tenure.

'Owner' means a person having a freehold interest or a leasehold interest the unexpired term of which is not less than seven years. 'Tenant' means a tenant of an agricultural holding any part of which is comprised in the land.

**In the matter of the Solicitors Act 1974
(as amended) and Solicitors
(Disciplinary Proceedings) Rules 2007**

-and-

**In the matter of George Olatunde Babalola,
Applicant**

-and-

Solicitors Regulation Authority, Respondent

I George Olatunde Babalola of 1025 Bishop Ajayi Crowther, Fara Park Estate, Lekki-Epe Expressway, Lagos was admitted a Solicitor of the Supreme Court of Judicature in August 1998.

By an Order of the Solicitors Disciplinary Tribunal dated 19 July 2005 I was suspended from the Roll for an indefinite period and:

- (1) I am applying to have my name restored to the Roll.
- (2) I advertise this application in accordance with the Rules.
- (3) The Application will be heard at 9:30am on 20 October 2017 at 3rd Floor, Gate House, 1 Farringdon Street, London EC4M 7LG.
- (4) Any objection to this application should be served on the Tribunal and the parties to the application no later than 10 days before the hearing date.

**Goods Vehicle
Operator's Licence**

Stephen Paget trading as HY-Scaff of Vantage Point, Snodland By Pass, Holborough, Snodland ME6 5SL is applying to change an existing licence as follows:
To add an operating centre to keep 5 goods vehicles and 0 trailers at Nurlite Industrial Estate, Canal Road, Higham, Kent ME3 7JA

Owners or occupiers of land (including buildings) near the operating centre(s) who believe that their use or enjoyment of that land would be affected, should make written representations to the Traffic Commissioner at Hillcrest House, 386 Harehills Lane, Leeds, LS9 6NF, stating their reasons, within 21 days of this notice. Representors must at the same time send a copy of their representations to the applicant at the address given at the top of this notice. A Guide to Making Representations is available from the Traffic Commissioner's office.



**M20 MOTORWAY (ASHFORD TO FOLKESTONE)
TEMPORARY TRAFFIC RESTRICTIONS**

Notice is hereby given that Highways England Company Limited intends to make an Order on the M20 Motorway in the County of Kent, under Section 14(1)(a) of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 because works are proposed to be executed on the road.

The effect of the Order would be to:

1. authorise the overnight closure of both carriageways of the M20 between Junction 10 (A20/A292/A2070) and Junction 11 (A20/B2068) and all of the slip roads leading to and from these lengths of carriageways; and
2. impose a 50 mph speed limit on the coast-bound carriageway of the M20 between the centreline of Cradle Bridge underbridge and a point 200m east of Ashford Road (A20) underbridge and all of the slip roads leading to and from this length of carriageway; and
3. impose a 50 mph speed limit on the London-bound carriageway of the M20 between the centreline of Saltwood Overbridge and centreline of Stock Lane overbridge and all of the slip roads leading to and from this length of carriageway.

These measures would be in the interests of road safety while contractors undertake carriageway works and all associated works.

It is expected that the work would last for approximately 2 weeks starting on or after Monday 2nd October 2017. The overnight closures would take place between 20:00 and 06:00 (maximum period). The Order would come into force on 30 September 2017 and have a maximum duration of eighteen months.

Traffic affected by the closures would be diverted using the A20, Heavy Goods Vehicles and vehicles with a height over 4.7 metres would be directed to use the A20, A259, A261, and A2070.

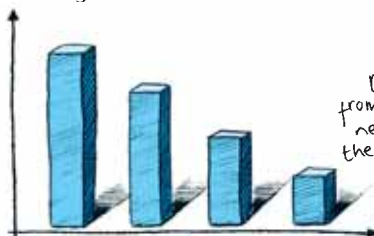
The temporary closures, speed limits and diversion routes would be clearly indicated by traffic signs when they are in operation during the works period.

M Taylor, an Official of Highways England Co Ltd.
Ref: HE/SE/2017/M20/167

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Shakey 'ready to right the wrongs'

Shane Byrne leads in the British Superbike Championship

Motorsport

By Tom Pyman

tom.pyman@archant.co.uk

KENT'S Shane 'Shakey' Byrne says he is ready to "put right the wrongs of previous races" as the British Superbike Championship returns to Silverstone this weekend.

The six title fighters will finally be decided in an intense triple-header, with everything to play for at this crucial stage.

For the first time in the history of the championship, there is not a single rider confirmed in the Showdown title fight ahead of the top six decider, so the battle to be in contention to push for British championship honours will come down to three crucial races in Northamptonshire.

Leading the standings into Silverstone is defending champion Byrne, who holds a narrow ten point advantage over arch rival Leon Haslam and the record-breaking champion will be pushing for a victorious return to Silverstone, but his JG Speedfit Kawasaki opponent was the victor last time out at Cadwell Park.

Peter Hickman has soared up the standings in recent rounds and the Smiths Racing BMW rider heads to Silverstone and will be looking to repeat his victory from 2016 as he bids to make the cut for the Showdown for the first time.

Also in contention are Australians Jason O'Halloran and Josh Brookes, Luke Mossey, Jake Dixon, Christian Iddon and James Ellison, so it is anticipated to be an explosive weekend of action in Northamptonshire.

Speaking ahead of the round this



LEADER: Shane 'Shakey' Byrne is raring to go ahead of Silverstone
Pictures: ANDY KELLY

weekend, Byrne said: "Silverstone is an event I am really looking forward to because if I am honest I left Cadwell Park a bit angry and frustrated about the last two rounds and how many potential podium points we have given away to our rivals. That is a bitter pill to swallow."

"With three races at Silverstone we have an opportunity to get some back

and so we need to work as hard as possible to make that happen. However we need to remember that the Showdown starts just a few days later."

"I have spent the time since the last round in Spain and I really feel fired up and ready to go because I want to put right the wrongs of the previous races at Silverstone."

World's largest sailing race set for Bewl Water

Sailing

SAILORS from across Kent are being invited to take part in the world's largest sailing race at Bewl Water later this month.

Taking place across the weekend of September 16 and 17, Bart's Bash races take place at venues around the world in aid of the charitable foundation set up in memory of Andrew 'Bart' Simpson, a double Olympic medallist who lost his life while training for the America's Cup in 2013.

The event at Bewl, in Lamberhurst, takes place on the Sunday and is being organised by Bewl Sailing Association.

A collection will be made for the Andrew Simpson Sailing Foundation



EVENT: Bart's Bash

which has pledged to use all funds raised through this year's event to help promote and develop disabled

sailing globally.

Andrew Daniells, chief operating officer at Markerstudy Leisure, the owners of Bewl Water, said: "Bart's Bash has quickly become a significant charitable global race, and with such a dedicated sailing community here at Bewl Water, there was no question we had to host it here."

"We are grateful to Bewl Sailing Association for taking on the organisation of the race, which is open to visitors as well as association members."

"The usual boat launch fees have been waived for all those registered to take part in the event, but donations to the Andrew Simpson Sailing Foundation are most welcome."

"Spectators are also welcome to come along and give their encouragement to those taking part."

Sport Shorts » Email sports@kosmedia.co.uk or call Tom Pyman on 01233653477

Pennock calls on fans not to give up on Gills

GILLINGHAM boss Ady Pennock has urged the club's supporters to keep the faith as their difficult start to the League One season continued on Saturday.

The Gills were beaten 2-1 at home to Shrewsbury last weekend, meaning their run without a win at the start of the league season extended to five games - their worst start in 43 years.

Pennock told the club's website he knew improvements were needed but insisted the results would soon come.

He said: "We need to win games. I really do believe in the players, and it will turn. It's tough because I care about the club and everybody here. I want to win every game."

"Don't give up on us, don't give up on the club, and don't give up on the team."

Meanwhile, the club announced this week that vice-chairman Michael Anderson had stepped down from the post.

Chairman Paul Scally said he had spoken to the EFL and they noted the position but the club declined to make further comment.



BOSS: Ady Pennock



HOME: Stonebridge Road, home of Ebbsfleet United

Fleet to host Orient in front of BT cameras

EBBSFLEET United's first-ever home game against Leyton Orient will be played in front of the BT Sport cameras.

National League chiefs announced today the clash on Saturday, November 11 had been moved to a late 5.30pm kick-off, instead of the usual 3pm start.

The clubs have only met once before, in 1993, when then Second

Division Orient beat the Fleet 2-1 in an FA Cup First Round tie at Brisbane Road.

It will be the first live TV game broadcast from Stonebridge Road since the 2010/11 season when the club's FA Cup tie against AFC Wimbledon was shown.

The sides were two divisions apart only months ago, but Fleet were promoted and Orient relegated.

Gemili reflects on 'brutal' year

DARTFORD'S world champion sprinter Adam Gemili admits the last few months of his career have been "brutal".

The 23-year-old was part of Great Britain's gold medal-winning 4x100m relay team in London last month but has endured a tough year individually, suffering a series of injury setbacks and ultimately

missing out on a 200m place at the world championships.

Posting on social media he said: "2017 season over. Drawing a big line under a very brutal year."

"My body since April just hasn't been right at all and that's showed throughout the year. Looking forward to some important rest and correcting things for 2018."

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